

Husband: **JAMES GROVER, III<sup>1</sup>**

Born: November 1607 Chesham, Buckinghamshire, England  
 Married: circa 1647 England  
 Died: December 1685 Middletown, Monmouth County, NJ  
 Buried:

Father: JAMES GROVER, JUNIOR (1581 – 1650)  
 Mother: ANNE EAMES (circa 1584 – 1686)

Wife: **REBECCA CHEESEMAM**

Born: circa 1628 England  
 Died: January – October 1686 Middletown, Monmouth County, NJ  
 Buried:

Father: WILLIAM CHEESEMAM (1606 – after 1668)  
 Mother: MARTHA DORSET (1608 – before 1667)

ISSUE:	BORN:	WHERE:
1) JOHN GROVER	circa 1648	England
2) JOSIAH GROVER	circa 1649	England
3) JAMES GROVER, IV	circa 1651	Gravesend, New Netherland
<b>4) JOSEPH GROVER</b>	<b>1653</b>	<b>GRAVESEND, New Netherland</b>
5) ABIGAIL GROVER	27 September 1654	Gravesend, New Netherland
6) <b>SAFETY GROVER</b>	<b>1658</b>	<b>GRAVESEND, New Netherland</b>
7) HANNAH GROVER	circa 1660	Gravesend, New Netherland

Many pages have been written regarding JAMES and REBECCA GROVER, most concern themselves with the identity of REBECCA – was she a CHEESEMAM or not? Others dispute the parentage of JAMES. It is not the purpose of this work to delve into those arguments as this author believes there are sufficient facts that warrant the statements contained herein (and insufficient facts to support any alternative version). However, a brief description of the facts will allow the reader the basis for what is contained in these pages. Much of the substance of the arguments is not included as it is not germane to the topic at hand: the life of JAMES and REBECCA GROVER. After reviewing the arguments, the information presented has the most credence such as: substantiating evidence, or the lack thereof; the correlation of ages (simple math eliminates many choices as in the case of the father dying, yet continuing to father children for another 4 years!); the inherent logic of the argument (is it *logical* to argue that a man in his late 40s marries for the first time, starts a family and is still fathering children at 60+ years? Yes, such a scenario is *possible* but definitely *not probable*.) While many writers and researchers use a keen eye and keener brain before they spread errors, far too many who do not rightfully belong to either category blindly repeat others past errors or, worse, make up a fantasy but present it as fact. The extraordinary is just that – not ordinary! And now, back to our story.

ENGLAND – 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

JAMES GROVER, son of JAMES and ANNE, was christened on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 1607 in Chesham. There have been four sets of parents offered: (1) JOHN GROVER, married to MARTHA MONK, who was born 20 June 1596; (2) LAZARUS GROVER who married GODS GRACE KING in 1611; (3) JAMES GROVER who was born in 1552 and married to JOAN; or (4) THOMAS GROVER. Three of these are easily dismissed: (1) JOHN GROVER was 11 years old when JAMES was christened; (2) LAZARUS GROVER married 4 years *after* JAMES was born; and (3) JAMES GROVER born in 1552 was the *grandfather* of this JAMES, not his *father*. The last, (4) THOMAS GROVER is possible, but as no one has produced any evidence documenting that such a person even existed, (4) can be dismissed. Lest we forget – the baptismal register of Chesham names JAMES' parents as JAMES and ANNE – at least according to the published transcriptions. The logical choice concurs with the registers and intelligent choice dismisses (1) through (4). JAMES was the third male in direct patrilineal succession to bear that given name, fourth if one considers that his great-grandfather "JEAMES" was the first "JAMES."

At 40 years old he married the 19 year old REBECCA. The case for REBECCA being the daughter of WILLIAM CHEESEMAM carries more weight with me than any of the others put forward. REBECCA CHEESEMAM is reported to have been born in Gravesend but this can not be. Gravesend was chartered in 1645 when a patent was issued by GOVERNOR WILLIAM KIEFT to the LADY DEBORAH MOODY and several others; it contained a religious freedom clause that would soon be exploited. Before 1645 southwest Long Island had no settlements and only a scattering of farms – including *Turk's Plantation* belonging to our ancestor ANTHONY JANSEN VAN SALÉE. Some have assumed that because JAMES and REBECCA lived in Gravesend at one point, they were born there. The place did not exist when they were born!

A much more plausible explanation, barring further research on the CHEESEMAM lines showing otherwise, is that JAMES and REBECCA were born in Chesham, England. JAMES headed to the colonies to get established; he returned to Chesham, married REBECCA, started their family and then moved to Gravesend.

#### BEING A BAPTIST WHEN IT WAS NOT THE POPULAR THING TO DO

There were two primary Baptist traditions in England before 1660: the General Baptists and the Particular Baptists. Many of the early Baptist congregations were independent affairs with a mix of variant tenets; many died out while others merged together. For later separatist congregations, only a "true church" could administer a valid baptism. The question then became what constituted a "true church"? Infant baptism and adult baptism became a hotly contested question in many English Independent congregations from 1600-1660.

In our time and place, it seems peculiar that religious divisions within Protestantism could be the root of so much dissension – is it *really* that important if one is Presbyterian, another a Baptist, a third an Episcopalian? To England it was – for their KING was also the Head of the Church of England – the "Pope" if you will. And it was up to the King and Parliament to determine the form the Anglican Church would take. Before the English Civil Wars, the Church of England (a creation of HENRY VIII) had adopted much of the Scottish Presbyterian forms (in part due to the large number of Presbyterian M.P.s); these forms were perceived as being too *popish*, too Roman Catholic. The KING personally authorized what was to be included in the Book of Common Prayer as well as the rites to be performed by his church – with Parliament's approval. The Civil Wars brought the military to power and the military leaders brought with them a strong Baptist presence which was reversed upon the 1660 Restoration. Imagine the shock of going to your church one Sunday and finding in place of the fine tapestries, marble statues, the ornate crucifix,

the resounding chants, the elaborate rituals and a preacher in rich vestments you were greeted with plain white walls decorated with a single, unadorned cross, no music or choir and a pastor dressed in plain white reciting previously-unheard prayers from an unknown book and dryly lecturing the congregation! The most important point to remember is that the Anglican Church was, basically, a state department. An Englishman had to be loyal to the KING which meant they had to be loyal to the KING'S Anglican Church, whatever its form. How could a person reject one without rejecting the other? At least that is how the problem was seen in 17<sup>th</sup> century England – herein lays the basis for the separation of church and state. From these discussions and altercations were born the Puritans and the Pilgrims who fled to their Promised Land in the New England colonies to practice their type of religion unfettered – and force everyone else to as well.

#### ANABAPTISTS

The Anabaptist tradition adopted by our GROVER ancestors is often said to have followed the 1660 STUART restoration. References to Anabaptists are found in English letters and documents over a century earlier. Briefly the English Anabaptists claimed the New Testament only allowed baptism once ‘the age of reason’ was reached and personal judgment exercised. Infant baptisms were not only invalid but went against scripture. They also eschewed the formality of ministers, opting for fellow congregants to read a suitable passage from whatever text they adopted. Dutch Anabaptists included a prohibition of taking up arms which did not find favor in the English branch. Obviously, JAMES must have held unconventional beliefs within the several Baptist traditions sprouting in England since the 1630s prior to the “creation” of the Anabaptist sect; possibly he was attached to one of the independent congregations from which Anabaptist doctrine sprouted. In fact, the Anabaptist sect was well-established by 1660 as VENNER'S Uprising of January 1661 caused CHARLES II to issue a proclamation prohibiting meetings of Anabaptists and several other religious sects. Prior to this we find JAMES GROVER being described in 1654 by the Dutch as an Anabaptist sent to OLIVER CROMWELL with a petition on behalf of the English inhabitants of Gravesend.

#### MASSACHUSETTS & NEW YORK

The next we hear of JAMES, it is 1643 and he is apprenticed to JAMES HUBBARD in Lynn, Essex County, Massachusetts. It is not certain that the 13-year-old HUBBARD was the master to whom the 36-year-old GROVER was apprenticed. According to WILLIAM NELSON (see later citation): *JAMES GROVER belonged to the GROVER family of Gloucester, Massachusetts – a family of seamen.* JAMES traveled to this country around 1642 and became acquainted with the Anabaptist community in Lynn. The LADY MOODY was forced to leave her home in Lynn, Massachusetts due to her Anabaptist beliefs and JAMES was treated in a similar manner and was probably one of the forty or so to accompany LADY MOODY and her son SIR HENRY MOODY from Lynn. After a false start in New Amsterdam where she befriended NICHOLAS STILLWELL, the religious refugees began settling on Long Island in 1643 to the east of *Turk's Plantation* owned by ANTHONY JANSEN VAN SALÉ. This was the sight of the third major attack on Long Island by the 11-tribe force arrayed against the Europeans during *Kieft's War* and the only one to succeed in repelling the enemy. ANNE HUTCHINSON and 18 residents of their little community, now at Pelham Neck, were slaughtered 6 October 1643 and a similar fate befell those who settled just west at Thockmorton's Neck soon thereafter. These survivors received a patent for over 7,000 acres from DIRECTOR-GENERAL KIEFT on 19 December 1645. It was issued to LADY DEBORAH MOODY (1586 – 1659), her son SIR HENRY MOODY (1607 - 1662), ENSIGN GEORGE BAXTER and

SERGEANT JAMES HUBBARD (1630 – 1702); in it the original twenty-eight land holders are named. The town was unique inasmuch that it was entirely English and it was the first to have the English layout of a central village surrounded by a palisade with farmland being separate from the residence. The derivation of the name of the town has been debated since its founding; some maintain that it was named Gravesend after the port city on the Thames in England where, at first it was thought LADY MOODY was born and, when this was shown to be wrong, the explanation offered was that it was the last city in England where she stood before crossing the Atlantic – romantic perhaps, but a little silly. Others maintain that KIEFT named it *s'Gravenzande* after a town in Holland, basing their position on that name appearing in the patent without considering the possibility that KIEFT was told by the residents who had been living there for two years when the patent was issued that Gravesend was the name of the town and he used the Dutch version of the English name. They maintain the Holland connection as *s'Gravenzande*, now in South Holland, was once the seat of the Counts of Holland before moving to *Den Haag* (The Hague) in the 13<sup>th</sup> century; they fail to grasp the inconsistency of the less-than-intelligent *Kieft* knowing that the connection of that town with some Count had existed 4 centuries earlier. The town proper was laid out in 1645 with twenty-eight lots but reconfigured the following year into four quadrants of ten lots each. Each quadrant was required to set aside some of its land for general use. Twenty-eight lots abutted the 7' high palisade that enclosed the town. The remaining twelve lots were inside on one of the two roads that bisected the town: the north-south Gravesend Road (now McDonald Avenue) and the east-west Gravesend Neck Road, Gravesend Neck being to the east of the town. This design was not uncommon in England but was unknown in New Netherland with some later writer's linking the design to the then current troubles rather than seeing it as a continuation of standard practices. The surnames GROVER and CHEESEMAN are not listed on the patent but JAMES GROVER is found as one of the original inhabitants, owning lot number 18 in the 1645 division and lot 20 in the 1646 division. He did obtain a grant of 20 acres plus a lot with a house on 20 February 1646 which may represent lot 20. How he came to be one of the earliest property owners, perhaps even before the second town plan had been completed in 1646, yet not one of the original patentees is a topic of further research. Each of the twenty-eight peripheral lots included 25 morgens of land immediately adjacent to their town-lot but outside the palisade; the owner was required to erect a fence at the outside perimeter of their outer lots. Sand dunes and salt marsh made up a significant part of the out lots, especially those closest to the bay. JAMES sold his *plantation* at Gravesend to THOMAS DELAVALL in 1666.<sup>2</sup>

#### THE RELIGIOUS LIFE OF GRAVESEND

Because of the religious freedom clause in the town's patent, Anabaptists were free to practice their faith as they desired, without ministers or preachers or churches, and that population was in the majority but a fair number of Quakers found safety there too. It was the Quakers, much despised at the time, who are now said to have built the first building for religious purposes in town, their Meeting House. Some Quakers at that time were overzealous in their proselytizing being disruptive during the services of other faiths and street-corner preaching. The official church of the province was the Dutch Reformed and the Reformed Church in Gravesend dates its founding to 1655; whether it was Dutch or English is questionable as is its existence. If it was Dutch, there would be no reason for some of the residents to financially support the Dutch Reformed Church at Midwout in 1657. With the English takeover in 1664 came the construction of the *Sessions House* in Gravesend which served a dual purpose – a Church and the Courthouse as Gravesend became the seat for the West Riding of Yorkshire.

The *Sessions House* was erected on the northwest corner of the central intersection and each of the other 3 blocks contributed a portion for the common good of the town – a cemetery was in the southwest block, being, itself, in the southwest corner and center of that block; a school was slated for another and, eventually, the last block would be built on when there was need for a separation of the governmental and religious buildings. Completed in 1667, this is considered to be the first Church edifice in town as the Quaker Hall was not considered religious; it is referred to as the *Old Reformed Protestant Dutch Church*. When Kings County was created in 1685, Flatbush was named the county seat and the *Sessions House* in Gravesend became a town hall with ownership passing to individuals who owned shares; Church services continued in the building until it had deteriorated so much it had to be torn down in 1760. Dutch Reformed maintained a strong presence on Long Island with a pastorate with 2 ministers being created in 1714 for the six Dutch Reformed Churches in Kings County: Brooklyn, Flatbush, Flatlands, New Utrecht, Bushwick and Jamaica. Gravesend residents became a partner with New Utrecht for that town's responsibility in securing the Dutch ministers and had, in fact, paid part of the salary of one of them for a decade prior to this. In 1762, two years after the *Sessions House* was razed, a building that was solely for Church purposes was built on its old site, the northwest corner, where its successor still stands.<sup>3</sup>

It is also at this time that JAMES' sister HANNAH GROVER accompanies the family to Gravesend. By 1650 JAMES was back on Long Island as he served as Gravesend's collector for the poor in that year. In 1657 he grew six acres of tobacco in the southeastern part of town which was probably the work of his seventeen year old son JOHN; it is not known if this was a portion of the twenty-acre tract bought in 1645.

As tensions grew between the Dutch rulers and their English subjects, JAMES felt his loyalties fall to England. The declaration of war between England and the Netherlands had seriously damaging consequences as STUYVESANT, showing his xenophobia, decided that all residents of New Amsterdam who had ever been under English rule, were now to be considered enemy and, despite having sworn an oath of allegiance to the States-General, treated them as such, having them arrested and thrown out of town. The English sought the protection of the Connecticut or Rhode Island colony but that never materialized. In 1653 or 1654 GEORGE BAXTER, or, more probably, his brother THOMAS, one of the patentees of Gravesend obtained a *letter-of-marque* from the colony of Rhode Island and preyed on both Dutch and English shipping.<sup>4</sup> On 24 December 1653, CAPTAIN JOHN TALCOTT, probably acting under the direction of the Connecticut colony, sent JAMES CHRISTIE to Gravesend to proclaim the overthrow of the Dutch government in favor to that of Connecticut. He was promptly arrested but later that evening, the self-proclaimed CAPTAIN, JOHN COE, a miller from England who lived in Middelburgh, accompanied by 150 English soldiers from JOHN SCHOTT's horse and foot regiment, surrounded the Gravesend home of LIEUTENANT NICHOLAS STILLWELL (the same STILLWELL that bought *Turk's Plantation* from ANTHONY JANSEN VAN SALÉ) demanding his release; they broke into the dwelling and ransacked it. COE then appointed one SERGEANT HUYBERT as *Burgomaster* and *Captain*. GEORGE BAXTER had been given the position of *English secretary* by KIEFT on 11 December 1642 because he was the only one who could *tolerably read or write the English language*, a post that STUYVESANT renewed in 1647; in 1645 he was one of the four English members of the original *Council of Eight* created by KIEFT to help control the increasingly unruly population; the English were all replaced by Dutch in short time. HUBBARD was appointed the *Schout* for Gravesend by Stuyvesant in 1648 and continued in that post until

1655. Both had called for a convention of English settlers on Long Island to be held in at in New Amsterdam to address their grievances against STUYVESANT'S actions whose effects were to minimize the role of the English in colonial affairs. STUYVESANT tried to subvert the convention by demanding that the Dutch towns be included; ultimately there were 4 Dutch and 4 English towns represented at the Convention that opened on 23 November 1653 in the Stadt Huys, but the DIRECTOR-GENERAL had sorely miscalculated. The Dutch towns refused to support him, in part because of his use of the English towns as allies in moves against the Dutch town magistrates. The Convention, as a whole, decided their allegiance to the States-General eclipsed the ongoing, tyrannical rule of the DIRECTOR-GENERAL and the DWIC. They acted by sending a remonstrance, written by BAXTER but signed by all and dated 1 December, to the States-General that outlined their grievances. This proved to STUYVESANT that he was right in his assessment that this crowd was guilty of treason. BAXTER and HUBBARD were Magistrates of Gravesend at the time, which only magnified their subversive actions, and both were removed from their posts. These events precipitated an act that could only be described as treasonous on 9 March 1655 (one source designates the year as *old style* meaning 1656, but this is probably an error. Part of the problem stems from the fact that the Netherlands and, by extension, its provinces, dated records using the new Gregorian calendar since 1582 while England would continue to use the Justinian calendar until 1752). On that date, acting on a tip, STUYVESANT sent ALLARD ANTHONY, *Burgomaster*, and his secretary CORNELIUS VAN TIENHOVEN, *Fiscal* of New Netherland, to Gravesend where they arrived just in time to witness JAMES GROVER, JAMES HUBBARD and GEORGE BAXTER hoist the British flag while JAMES GROVER read the following three times:

*We, individuals of the English nation here present, do, for divers reasons and motives, as free-born British subjects, claim and assume to ourselves the laws of our nation and Republic of England over this place, as to our persons and property, in love and harmony, according to the general peace between the two states in Europe and this country. God Almighty preserve the Republic of England and His Highness the Lord Protector, and also the continuance of peace between the two countries. Amen.*

An alternative account in the Dutch State papers has the statement being *posted* three times and read *once*, the participants being named as JAMES BACXTER and JAMES HUYBERT with no mention of JAMES GROVER. Yet a third relates that it was BAXTER who made the pronouncement with HUBBARD and GROVES participating.<sup>5</sup> JAMES HUYBERT is probably the same as the *SERGEANT HUYBERT* who was appointed *Burgomaster* and *Captain* in December 1653; furthermore, it appears that *HUBBARD* and *HUYBERT* are the same person, the former being the English spelling and the latter, Dutch.<sup>6</sup> Their declaration and the attempt to secure English protection constituted acts of treason under Dutch law and HUBBARD and BAXTER were immediately arrested and imprisoned at Fort Amsterdam which the Company not only approved of, but made the imprisonment indefinite. LADY MOODY was the most influential to appeal to STUYVESANT for their release and HUBBARD was freed early the following year. BAXTER was transferred to the debtor's room at the courthouse and after bail was posted by friends, he escaped, leaving those who posted bail somewhat poorer. He made his way to Gravesend, where he convinced several people to sign a *memorial* to OLIVER CROMWELL asking for England's protection. After handing the *memorial* over to JAMES GROVER, BAXTER fled into New England.<sup>7</sup> According to an account of these happenings, written on 5 November 1660 by the DWIC and sent to the States-General, JAMES made an escape to Boston, but they do not say when – after the Gravesend incident in

March 1655 or BAXTER's escape in early 1656. JAMES sailed to England in March 1656, to present a *Declaration of Allegiance* and the petition for protection to OLIVER CROMWELL. Either JAMES's role in Gravesend has been exaggerated, which explains his not being arrested, or he somehow escaped when his two accomplices did not and remained in hiding for a year.<sup>8</sup> While this may sound far-fetched, sending someone to the *LORD PROTECTOR OF ENGLAND* pleading for help, it is actually what transpired. LADY MOODY had connections; not only was her son SIR WILLIAM MOODY an M.P. in Parliament, he was also OLIVER CROMWELL's uncle! GEORGE BAXTER would go on to have an up-and-down military career under English rule. In 1663 he was in London, giving an account of New Netherlands, returning with RICHARD NICOLLS military force in 1664 to witness the capitulation of STUYVESANT. The Protestant WILLIAM and MARY took the English crown from the Catholic JAMES II, their father-in-law and father, respectively, in 1688; an event that, incidentally, returned New York to its former Dutch ruler, his ROYAL HIGHNESS WILLIAM OF ORANGE. (Fort James reverted to its name during the brief return of Dutch rule in 1673 – Fort William – in honor of the same person both times). GEORGE may have been the Captain of Fort Albany in 1688 but that person is also found with the name *JERVIS BAXTER*; which is correct is unknown, but it may account for the uncertainty that exists concerning GEORGE. This Dutch rise to power was accompanied by a determined anti-Catholic sentiment and the BAXTER of the fort, a devout Roman Catholic, was dismissed from his post. Alarmed over this reinvigorated persecution, BAXTER made his way to the home of CAPTAIN ANDREW BOWNE in *the Neversinck's*, probably the son of the patentee CAPTAIN JOHN BOWNE. From there he sailed for England on a brig that COLONEL THOMAS DONGAN, the former governor of New York, had armed *for some warlike design*.<sup>9</sup> The problem with this being GEORGE BAXTER is his religion; GEORGE, who accompanied LADY MOODY from Lynn, Massachusetts was Anabaptist.

Among the British Colonial State Papers is a proposal made by JAMES GROVER on 19 August 1656, for transporting persons from Long Island to Jamaica Island. The dating of this lends credence to the acts at Gravesend being done in 1656 rather than 1655. In 1655 ADMIRAL WILLIAM PENN and GENERAL ROBERT VENABLE had taken the last Spanish fort on the island. JAMES is sometimes said to have been a ship's captain and if he was hoping to expand his trading between New England and the West Indies to include Jamaica, the proposal mentioned makes perfect sense. CROMWELL wanted to have British subjects outnumber any other group on the island, thus he encouraged emigration from New England.<sup>10</sup> CROMWELL had appointed JAMES GROVER and LEWIS MORRIS as commanders of the British forces in the Spanish West Indies in 1654 during which time it is said he amassed a fortune besides establishing economic ties to the area.<sup>11</sup> In light of this, his petition reveals a bit of his business acumen. It seems that JAMES's proposal was not acted on; he remained in England for some time but had returned to Gravesend by August 1657. All told it seems he spent a little over a year there, from April 1656 to June or July 1657. Of course, this proposal could have been submitted by another man with the same name but, nonetheless, colonial records reflect his presence there only from August 1657.

JAMES returned to the colonies before 24 August 1657; he carried with him a letter from CROMWELL's secretary THURLOE to be presented to the Magistrates of Gravesend. Once presented, JAMES demanded they open the letter and read it to the people. Instead, they sent it unopened to New Amsterdam. STUYVESANT, suspecting that the English had petitioned CROMWELL for liberation from the Dutch, penned his own letter on 24 August 1657 to the Magistrates:

*Honorable, Dear. Faithful, the Schout and Magistrates of the village of Gravesend*

*We received quite late your information that one JAMES GROVER had come there with a letter from the Lord Protector to the English inhabitants on Long Island. The Indians and English inhabitants outside of our jurisdiction and Government can take and read them to their people, but we are unable to understand how any letters from any foreign Prince of Potentate can be accepted within our Government by subjects under oath and obedience to us. Therefore you are hereby requested, and at the same time authorized to send said JAMES GROVER, with his letters to us in order to exhibit to us in our Council what writing he has for our subjects.*

*Awaiting which, after cordial greeting, we shall commend you to God's protection, and remain, Honorable, Dear, Faithful, Your affectionate friends.*

*The Director and Council of New Netherlands.*

*PETRUS STUYVESANT.*

STUYVESANT sent the unopened letter to Amsterdam in November on the ship *de Waegh* so as to be able to claim that he could not be accused of the crime of opening the letter from a foreign prince from which rebellion might arise. The records are not clear on whether or not JAMES was actually arrested; the order for his arrest was issued but there is no mention of him being imprisoned; perhaps he fled to escape imprisonment. It would seem that he brought his family away from Gravesend at this time, possibly settling briefly in Whitehall, Washington County, NY. He remained active on Long Island though where he travelled from town to town, urging Englishmen to oppose the Dutch and their Mohawk allies by refusing to take part in the *First Esopus War* which began in September 1659 and ended in July 1660. He repeated this during the *Second Esopus War* of June to September 1663.<sup>12</sup>

With the growing English threat, many English on Long Island saw this as an opportunity to obtain lands they had been denied by the Dutch. Twenty men stepped forward headed by CAPTAIN JOHN BOWNE, boarded a sloop and set out for an inspection tour of lands they hoped to purchase or acquire through title from the Indians. BOWNE had been sent to Holland as a prisoner for being a Quaker by STUYVESANT around 1660 but Company officials rebuked him for his intolerance.<sup>13</sup> The Dutch later reported that members of the party included: WILLIAM GOULDING, RANDALL HUET, DERRICK (RICHARD) STOUT, JAMES HUBBARD, JAMES GROVER, THOMAS WHITLOCK, SERGEANT RICHARD GIBBONS, JOHN RUCKMAN, SAM SPICER, a man named KREUPELBOS, one from Flushing, two from Jamaica, and some others they *did not know*. Across the Bay they sailed up the Raritan River, back along the northern shores of Monmouth and into the mouths of the Matawan, Waycane, and Coopers Creeks, landing now and again to scout out the land, either ignoring or ignorant of the fact that the DWIC owned large tracks of land in the area as a result of their buy-back of the failed *patroonships*.

The movement of so large a group of Englishmen caught the attention of the ever-suspicious Dutch and when STUYVESANT learned of the project, he dispatched CAPTAIN MARTIN KRIEGER on 6 December 1663 with an armed force of ten soldiers and two sailors. They were accompanied by four government officials that included GOVERT LOOCKERMANS, one of the original council of *Nine Men* created in 1647; JACQUES CORTELYOU; and the *Schout* CHARLES MORGEN.<sup>14</sup> They sailed on the Company yacht, *to intercede in any illegal sale of lands without the blessing of the Company*, arriving at the mouth of the Raritan River where two Indian houses stood on 7 December. The Indians told the Dutch that the English, numbering nineteen, had gone in an open boat up the Raritan the day before. Alarmed, they sent *HANS THE INDIAN* after them so



as to inform the *sachems* of the situation. When he found the party, they were in the final stages of negotiating a sale, until *HANS* informed the *sachems* that the Dutch has prior claim on the land.

Undeterred, the English party kept looking. They set up camp on Sandy Hook on the 10<sup>th</sup> and proceeded to explore both arms of the Shrewsbury River, *between Rensselaer Hoeck and the Sandy Hoeck*.

After following their movements and weathering a “blow” the Dutch encountered the English. After landing at Sandy Hook on 10 December, they reported that they saw the Englishmen *standing under arms*. By the Dutch account the *Schout* CHARLES MORGEN approached JOHN BOWNE and the Englishmen *without arms* and asked what business they had there.

English: *We came to trade.*

Dutch: *Why are you come in such numbers if you only come to trade?*

English: *The savages are rascals and cannot be trusted therefore we are in such numbers.*

Dutch relayed that they had heard that they had come to buy land from the savages.

English: *We only go to look at it.*

Dutch: *They should not undertake to buy any land from the savages as it has been mostly been bought from the Dutch already.*

JOHN BOWNE: *Under what government do you consider us to be?*

Dutch: (no reply)

BOWNE: *Why may we not go to look for land just as well as you do?*

Dutch: *They must not undertake to buy land from the savages unless they had proper permission from the Director-General and Council.*

LOOKERMANS then made a parting shot: *Ye are a party of traitors, as ye act against the government of the state.*

With that the Dutch force returned to Manhattan, and the Englishmen continued making their plans.

#### NEW NETHERLAND TO NEW JERSEY AND NEW YORK

New Netherlands was lost to the English in September 1664 when 4 warships, under the command of RICHARD NICOLLS, appeared in the harbor the previous month. Returning to the Dutch colony was none other than GEORGE BAXTER who may have ended up in Nevis in the West Indies but this is disputed.<sup>15</sup> This humiliating loss was more than compensated for when the Dutch won a resounding victory in the ensuing *Second Anglo-Dutch War* (1665 – 1667). The Four Days Battle in 1666 saw 10 English Navy ships lost to 4 Dutch losses. This led directly to the single greatest loss in the history of the English Navy when the Dutch Navy sailed through the Thames estuary up the River Medway where the remainder of the English fleet was laid up. Of the 9 great battleships that remained to the English, 3 were burnt and *HMS Royal Charles*, England’s flagship was captured without a shot and towed back to the Netherlands as a trophy and later sold for scrap. English losses included 12 smaller warships sunk or scuttled. The terms of the *Treaty of Breda* allowed the English to keep possession of the former New Netherland, in part because the colony, being part of a corporate entity motivated by profit, was never looked at as being part of the Dutch Republic; they returned the French-Canadian province of Acadia to New France. The Dutch secured a worldwide monopoly on the trade in nutmeg by keeping the Indonesian island of Run, which, as part of the Bandu Islands, were the sole source of nutmeg until 1817 and they forced the English to accept the Dutch position on *freedom of navigation*

which afforded protection to shipping on ships of neutral countries which made the previously accepted *search and seizure* policy a violation of the treaty. They also kept their South American conquest of Surinam, which was added to the existing Dutch colonies in the Guianas. Surinam remained under Dutch rule until 1954. A few years later, the Dutch forced a similarly humiliating experience of the 1664 loss of the English when they retook their former colony with almost no resistance in 1673.

JAMES, anticipating an imminent English *liberation*, “jumped the gun” and took up residence in a part of the soon-to-be-gone colony in early 1664 where large numbers of English expatriates started to move to in late 1663. Their blatant disregard for the DWIC directives and the lack of response on the Company’s part further instilled the notion that the final days of the Dutch colony were close at hand. What had largely been seen as an integral part of the New Netherland colony now became the wholly separate English Proprietary Province of New Jersey which soon split into the Provinces of East and West New Jersey. JAMES and REBECCA settled in the central part of what would become the Province of East New Jersey, where they amassed a large amount of land. Some pinpoint their first abode as being a few miles west of Middletown in Baptisttown, now Holmdel. The new English Governor, RICHARD NICOLLS, wasted no time in granting permission for the Gravesend men and others to settle the lands located across the narrows in Monmouth:

*Upon the request of WM GOULDING, JAMES GROVER and JOHN BROWNE [BOWNE], on behalf of them and their associates, I do hereby authorize them to treat and conclude with the several sachems of the Nevisans or any others concerned about the purchase of a parsel of land lying and being on the maine, extending from Chawgoranis, near the mouth of the Raritan River, unto Pontohecke. For the doing whereof this shall be their warrant.*

*Given under my hand at Fort James, in New York, on Manhattan Island,*

*the 17th day of October 1664.*

*R. NICOLLS*

#### EAST JERSEY PATENTEE & PROPERTY OWNER

In 1663 JAMES appears as one of the original settlers of what would become Monmouth County – he is often found as SENIOR in these records despite being the third in line with this name. This was used to identify him rather than his son. At least nine of the original patentees of Gravesend moved to Middletown in the Navesinks: JAMES GROVER; THOMAS WHITLOCK; WALTER WALL; JOHN TILTON, JUNIOR; SAMUEL SPICER; JOHN RUCKMAN, JUNIOR; JOHN BOWNE; WILLIAM GOULDING and RICHARD STOUT. While the majority of settlers hailed from Newport, Rhode Island, the English from Gravesend accounted for a strong minority. They immediately set out to settle Middletown, Shrewsbury and Portland Point as well as a scattering of plantations. In the spring or early summer of 1664, CAPTAIN JOHN BOWNE, RICHARD STOUT, JAMES GROVER and RICHARD GIBBONS located themselves near the site of the present Middletown village and began to erect houses for shelter and protection of their families which were moved in as soon as the buildings were completed. By the spring of 1665, these four families were comfortably and permanently seated there. A different source maintains that these same families established themselves a few miles west of Middletown at Baptisttown, known

Holmdel, and were instrumental in building the place of worship, the Upper Meeting House, at that place.<sup>16</sup> These were Monmouth's first families.

Prior to CARTERET & BERKELEY'S 1665 grant that created the New Jersey province became known, the area was part of the Royal Province of New York. The Royal Governor of New York, RICHARD NICOLLS (the same NICOLLS that accepted STUYVESANT'S surrender of New Netherland) granted JAMES a tract of land in Middletown. This grant, along with several others by NICOLLS, is found in many early records of New Jersey, appearing as the exceptions to the grants made by BERKELEY & CARTERET. These particular tracts became embroiled in fights over taxes and quit-rents – were they payable to New York (where the grant came from) or New Jersey (where the grant was located)? JAMES continued to appear in Gravesend land records at this time, receiving rights to a tract on 5 June 1665, with six named others and the *rest of the company* from eight Native American sachems.<sup>17</sup> However, this document may have only recorded a much earlier transaction.

NICOLLS actually issued *The Navesink* or *Sandy Hook Patent* in 1665, a name used for a decade. From 1675 until the creation of Monmouth County in 1682 the area was Middletown and Shrewsbury Counties and, only after Monmouth County came into existence did the name change to *The Monmouth Patent*. The Patent was issued on 8 April 1665 and it lists twelve Patentees from Gravesend including JAMES GROVER.<sup>18</sup> The patent extended west from Sandy Hook to the mouth of the Raritan, thence 25 miles up the Raritan (ending near the town of the same name), then running a course southwest for 12 miles, then southeast for 25 to Barnegat and then north along the coast back to Sandy Hook; it encompassed most of the present counties of Somerset, Middlesex, Monmouth, and Ocean. One share cost £4 and that's the amount that JAMES invested. All original patentees owned at least one share for which you received 500 acres plus allowances for an additional 120 acres for each qualified family member and 60 acres for each servant; this last had to be turned over to the servant upon expiration of their term of service of which four years was the maximum allowed.

On 30 December 1667 he became one of the original land owners of Monmouth County when he received lot number 16 and out-lot number 15 of *the lotts that are in the Poplar field and mountany field* in Middletown as well as lot 36. JAMES located his claim just north of Red Bank at *New Shrewsbury* before 1673.<sup>19</sup> The name was changed to Tinton Falls at a later date. Some of the disputes between the Monmouth Patentees and the Lords Proprietor were resolved by the Confirmation of Rights signed on 28 May 1672. In this GOVERNOR CARTERET confirmed to the Patentees, JAMES GROVER included, and Associates of the Towns of Middletown and Shrewsbury the privileges granted them by GOVERNOR NICOLLS on 8 April 1665.<sup>20</sup> This served to legalize the patents made by the New York GOVERNOR who was unaware that the DUKE OF YORK had given a separate grant to BERKELEY and CARTERET for the future New Jersey but it created future problems when the payment of quit-rents was requested by both provincial governors. JAMES GROVER sold his farm in Gravesend to THOMAS DELAVALL around this time, possibly because, with their rights confirmed, the area was set for rapid growth.

In 1667 or 1668 a list of inhabitants was drawn up because each eligible resident living in Monmouth when the 1665 Patent was three years old became eligible for the additional 120 acres, 240 for husband and wife, grants. JAMES is on this list receiving lot number 25; his son JAMES GROVER, JUNIOR is also on the list.<sup>21</sup>

In 1669 JAMES was one of four Patentees (RICHARD STOUT, JOHN BOUND and RICHARD GIBBONS were the other three) caught up in a dispute with the local tribe. It seems that RICHARD HARTSHORNE occupied a building that had not been purchased from the Native tribes. The

Patentees informed him that it was considered a trading house only but they agreed to buy the land and structure. The transaction was delayed and HARTSHORNE was repeatedly threatened by the tribesmen to either buy the property or vacate otherwise they would kill his cattle, burn his hay and turn him by force. Fed up, HARTSHORNE went to Hempstead and bought out WILLIAM GOULDER's share and returned to *Wake-cake* where he bought the land from the tribe and thus becoming a Patentee. This transaction was witnessed by JAMES GROVER, RICHARD STOUT and SAMUEL SPICER who were then at *Wake-cake* [may refer to Wakake Creek near Holmdel or to the Middletown 'port' of Waackaack located where the Waackaack Creek drains into Raritan Bay northwest of Keansburg].<sup>22</sup>

It is unclear if the *out-lots* and the *lots that are in the Poplar field and mountany field* are the same; he owned a lot number 15 in both sets of lots; and whether these are the same as the first division lots in the *shoale harbour meadows*, is uncertain. On 9 May 1670 his parcel laid out in the second division at *Weikec Necke* was confirmed to *lie on the Eastward side of Shoale Harbour Creek viz: of the lott number 16* (his town lot?). On 21 June 1670 it is recorded that JAMES first division tract in the *shoale harbour meadows* was defective so he was given preference in the second division at *Weikec Necke*, being the third to choose, he chose *lott number 25* which is the one described as being *on the Eastward side of Shoale Harbour Creek*. This appears confirmed by the following: On 25 December 1669 JAMES GROVER, SENIOR of Middletown surrendered upland lot number 16 to the town; received in return *the full quality* of a town lot on the south side of the mill stream beginning at the south side of the mill dam and running 40 rods *up the hill* and *so in length* towards the Swimming River.<sup>23</sup>

He continued to accrue land as shown by a conveyance of 24 August 1674, in which JOHN BOWNE, RICHARD HARTSHORNE, and JAMES GROVER gave *sundry species of trading goods* to MATAPPEAS, TAWAPUNG, and SEAPECKNE, CHIEF SACHEMS OF TOPONEMESE, for a tract of land, size unspecified, on Navesink River.<sup>24</sup> Tract of land begins *...at a Certain appointed place called by the Indians Warummanung [The Falls] and so Ranging allong the fall River untill it falls into the Nevesink River...to a Certain small Rivelett of Water Called...Wakecowaneck then to another Rivelett Creek or Run called quequanaquecan the to another run called Seapoose then to Sisquaniack Run Lastly to a run Called Scugapokercak and then runs...into the Woods about one English Mile untill it meets with...a Path Side wich...goes from the said falls to Aspertong and from thence...unto...a Boggy Meadow called by the Indians Hochocering and from thence to Encompass the said Boggie Meadow untill one Come to the head of the fall River*.<sup>25</sup> This tract may be one-and-the-same referenced in a subsequent modification to the Monmouth Patent in which the *pretended patentees* who *laid out money in purchasing land from the Indians shall have in consideration thereof five hundred acres of land* which was dated 31 July 1674.<sup>26</sup> It was on this land that JAMES GROVER discovered bog iron, a resource he exploited. JOHN BOWNE, JAMES GROVER, and associates filed a petition with the Dutch GOVERNOR ANTHONY COLVE, during the Netherlands brief resumption of power, to have their patent rights confirmed *for the lands lying between Sandyhook and the Raritan kil, New Jersey*.<sup>27</sup> This was probably done for the Navesink River tract just purchased, but, with the change in government, it could have been to confirm the original Monmouth Patent.

According to *Descendants of Founders of New Jersey*, from NJFounders.org, two patents were issued to JAMES in 1675 – one for 500 acres and another for 360 acres. The first is for being a patentee and is reflected in the Warrant dated 31 May 1676, while the second is for three eligible family members and is probably reflected in the Warrant for 400 acres dated 23 June 1676.

Recorded in *Liber 1* of East Jersey deeds is the following: on 30 June 1676, GOVERNOR CARTERET granted to *JAMES GROVER of Middleton, County of Middleton & Shrewsbury* a patent totaling 561 acres: a 330 acre tract called *Grover's Inheritance*, bounded on the east and south by the *Swimming River*, in Middletown (not actually the town, but the township; Swimming River is near Red Bank and Tinton Falls and connects to the Navesink River); a 200 acre triangular tract called *Grover's Addition* on Ramanesse Creek in Middletown (this was an alternate name used for the Hopp River, now Hopp Brook which runs a north-south course and is between Holmdel and Middletown though it is noted in some records as the Navesink River); 25 acres of meadow in a triangular tract on Navesink Bay; and 6 acres of swamp land at the head of *Jumping River* (there is a Jumping Brook that runs between just south of Tinton Falls and the Snake River inland from Asbury Park). The annual "rent," probably meaning tax, on all four tracts was one halfpenny per acre. The Warrant for these tracts totaling 500 acres is dated 31 May 1676 while the Survey, for 560 acres, is dated 23 June 1676.<sup>28</sup> This was the Patent and surveys JAMES had obtained in conjunction with what seems to be a *moiety* or one-half of one of the tracts, not all four, with PETER TILTON when they purchased the land from the Sachems. It would be left to JAMES's son JOSEPH for this to be partitioned, charges and expenses paid, and recorded.

Another Warrant was issued to JAMES GROVER, SENIOR *in right of himself, his wife, and two sons* on 23 June 1676 for 400 acres. JAMES transferred unspecified land to RICHARD HARTSHORNE in Middletown on 2 March 1677.<sup>29</sup>

A Survey for 517 acres appears in May 1677 with a Conveyance dated 12 June 1677 covers four parcels *by the Mill Dam; New River; Mill Creek; and Shoulds Harbor*.<sup>30</sup> On 20 June he received the Patent for these 5 parcels containing 517 acres, known as *Grover's New Invention*, in Middletown. He transferred these to son JAMES in 1685.

On 5 December 1685 JAMES gave the tracts named *Grover's Inheritance* and *Grover's Addition* plus the 6 acres of swampland, totaling 536 acres to his son JOSEPH.<sup>31</sup> Five days later, a Survey of 200 acres was recorded for two tracts on the *West side of Mill Brook and at Shoal Harbour*.<sup>32</sup>

Several other land transactions are recorded from 1697 forward but it is unclear if these involve the father, the son or a grandson. Two examples illustrate this problem well: from the language and the people involved, the following is believed to be our subject and not a descendant, but this is not certain. Recorded on 12 June 1714 is a land record in which JAMES GROVER of Middletown transfers to GAVEN DRUMMOND of Loch Harbor, Shrewsbury for *a competent sum of money* four items: *one-half of one-twelfth of one-forty-eighth* of the Province of East New Jersey; the *right to 280 acres in Right of the Second and Third Dividend* and 46 acres of land and meadow, except *reserving to JAMES GROVER, the Rights of rents on 223 acres (see below)*; right to 290 acres *to be taken up in Right of the Second and Third Dividend of shares of property*; and 46 acres land and meadow at Barnegat (a corruption of the Dutch *Barendegat* meaning *broken waters*, a reference to the tumultuous waters found at the inlet), conveyed by deed of THOMAS COOPER, 5 February 1706 and released to him and *fellow purchasers* by deed of 2 October 1768. Within this land record is the statement that JAMES GROVER *was seized of one-half of one-twelfth of one-forty-eighth and Rights of rents on 233 acres*.<sup>33</sup> This was the son JAMES GROVER, not the father, who stopped using the *JUNIOR* after his father died. Both the above and the following examples clearly shows that JAMES' son of the same name is not always the *JAMES GROVER, JUNIOR* named in records. A Survey is found for land borders that of JAMES GROVER JUNIOR *by Pattent of his grandfather JAMES GROVER then*

*SENIOR, Deceased.*<sup>34</sup> This could have been a son of JOSEPH or SAFETY but not JAMES JUNIOR as he only had daughters.

JAMES GROVER, SENIOR purchased the plantation of ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, ESQUIRE by deed at some point and added *more land* to bring the total to 69 ½ acres and 21 square rods. JAMES sold this tract to his son JAMES.<sup>35</sup> One or both of these deeds were not recorded until 21 May 1750; the delay is unexplainable at this time.

JAMES' Middletown property embraces the neighborhood known today as the Locust Historic District which stretches along Locust Point Road and Navesink River Road. The Locust Historic District begins at Lakeside Avenue, runs northwest along Locust Point Road to its terminus with Navesink River Road, then continues east along Navesink River Road for 1.2 miles.

In 1670 the problem with holding your land by virtue of a deed issued by RICHARD NICOLLS, the governor of New York, which was later confirmed by the issuance of a deed for the same land by the PHILLIP CARTERET, the governor of East Jersey surfaced when CARTERET demanded payment of the quit-rents. According to the terms of the Monmouth Patent issued by NICOLLS and transferred to the patentees in their various deeds, there were no quit-rents payable. CARTERET argued that the quit-rents were payable under the terms of the deeds he had forced the landholders to obtain before the government would recognize the validity and legality of the NICOLLS patent. This caused a civil war in miniature to break out in East Jersey with mob violence, house burnings, convening separate courts, appointing competing officials to positions like sheriff that flared up repeatedly over many years. Just where our ancestor fell in the possible spectrum of response, from paying CARTERET to refusing to recognize his authority and forcibly disbanding any of his offices and arresting his officials, is not certain but it would not be in character for him to submit to CARTERET'S demands.

JAMES is also found surveying land for others as he did for J. THROCKMORTON under a Warrant dated 13 August 1685.<sup>36</sup>

#### BUSINESS INTERESTS: TAVERN, CORN AND IRON MILLS AND MILLWRIGHT

Besides owning large tracts of land, JAMES was also a businessman. The year 1667 saw the licensing of the third *ordinary* or tavern to serve *ardent spirits* in the Province for one year to none other than JAMES GROVER on the 10<sup>th</sup> of July<sup>37</sup>:

*These are to permit and Lycence JAMES GROVER "of Navesinck" to keep an ordinary or victualing howse for the Entertaynement and Acomodation of all strangers and passengers With Lodging and provisions, and to retaile all manner of strong drink and liquors to all persons Whatsoever Excepting the Indians, Allwayes provided that he keeps good orders in his howse, and not Exceed the rates that are or shall be appointed . . .*<sup>38</sup>

At the time keepers of public house were forbidden to allow tippling on the Lord's Day *except for necessary refreshment*. Liquor was served in large amounts at funerals and to a lesser-degree at weddings, both usually held on Sundays. As time passed Sundays themselves became reason for serving liquor which became too popular – legislation was passed in the 1680s to curtail this weekly celebration.

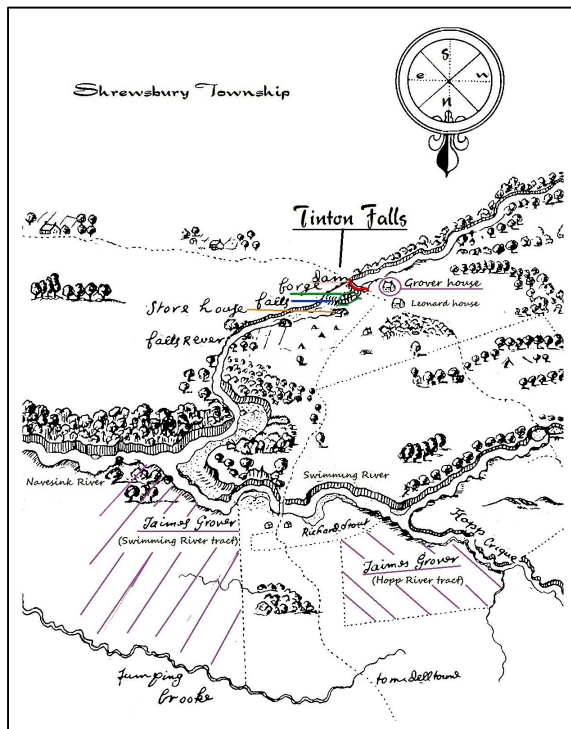
At the end of 1669 JAMES GROVER became Middletown's miller. The mill lot had been laid out 18 months earlier and ROBERT JONES took over the mill in July 1668, operating it for less than 6 months before giving up the business and returning the property to the town. JAMES

surrendered Middletown lot number 16 to the town on 25 December 1669 in exchange for lot 33 on which the mill was situated. The lot was 30 acres *of upland* on the south side of the mill stream that fed into Swimming River, *70 rods by the Runne and so in breadth up into the woods: together with the quantity of two acres of low ground lying upon the northward side of the mill pond.* (The Hopp River was often called Mill River at this time and that may be the location of the mill) JAMES, as part of the deal, had to pledge that he, and his heirs, would:

1. maintain the mill in good repair to grind the corn for Milltown inhabitants;
2. to grind the town corn before any from other towns if asked;
3. to grind the towns corn “for the twelfe bushel: tolle:”
4. to make as good meal for the towns people as is usually made within this province or within the government of New York, provided the corn is of good enough condition to make good meal and there is enough water to run the mill;
5. to keep the additional land and not dispose of any part or parcel;
6. to be bound, him and his heirs, to keep these conditions.<sup>39</sup>

#### NEW SHREWSBURY AND THE BIRTH OF THE IRON MILL INDUSTRY IN NEW JERSEY

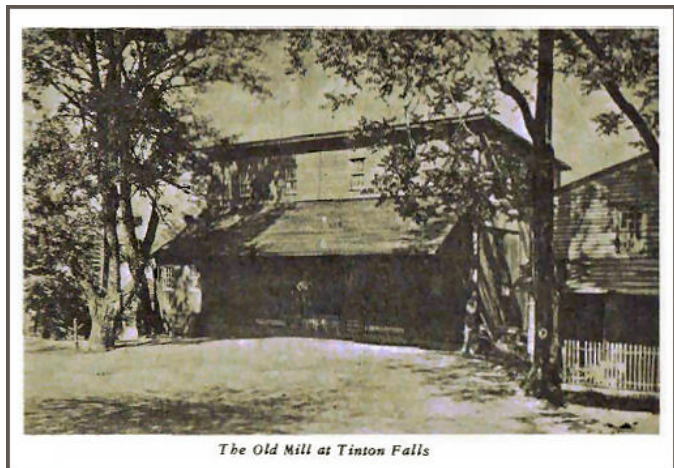
Closing in on 70 years old JAMES was about to embark on a whole new adventure. He discovered iron ore in the form of bog iron on his quickly expanding land holdings.<sup>40</sup> By the end of 1669 he had brought JAMES and HENRY LEONARD to the area, which he apparently dubbed *New Shrewsbury*, to construct the first iron works in the province. The LEONARD’S had built the iron works at Taunton, MA in 1652. Located *at the falls*, a mill dam was built over which the road from Shrewsbury to Middletown ran. These falls still run though in greatly diminished form; it was about a 30’ drop when JAMES built the iron mill, literally. Existing records, in his hand, indicate that his was a *hands-on* approach when it came to building the iron mill. Records



show he frequently travelled to New Haven, CT most likely to buy mill equipment from the New Haven Iron Works. The first mill was a single hammer forge that heated the iron to the point of malleability at which point it was hammered as needed. This was soon expanded to a two-hammer finery (for refining the iron) and chafery (for reheating to make wrought iron bars). The mill added a blast furnace, the largest of the mills, which smelted the iron into liquid pools which were poured into sand molds. Other constructions included two grist mills which ground the grain to supply food for the workers as well as worker housing. Separate large houses were built for JAMES GROVER and SAMUEL LEONARD. It is common to find the mill being described as on the Shrewsbury River however that is not correct. As early as Gordon’s Gazetteer from 1834, the waterway is called a branch of the Navesink River. It was named the Iron Mill River and is a branch off the Swimming River, itself the southern



branch off the Navesink River. In order to finance the works, he mortgaged a 25% ownership of the business and property to CORNELIUS STEENWYCK of New York. One clause in their agreement allowed for the seizure and sale of 25 cattle, to recover damages in case of default.<sup>41</sup> Still in need of more capital, JAMES sold half ownership of the iron works on 29 December 1675 to COLONEL LEWIS MORRIS (1601-1691) of Morrisiana, NY. Between 1675 and 1683 £8680 (\$2,034,343.83 in 2018) was invested in the construction and operation of the mill. The 1676 Tinton Iron Works account book reveals a workforce numbering 25, by 1679 the force numbered 75, not including the slave population which was 60 or more by 1680.<sup>42</sup> MORRIS subsequently bought the mortgage held by STEENWYCK after his death in 1684. Thus COLONEL MORRIS became the majority owner with a 75% interest in the Works. While it is unknown who owned the other 25%, it is possible that it was a group of associates. The eight most probable candidates were the iron masters JAMES and HENRY LEONARD; three of their brothers SAMUEL, NATHANIEL and THOMAS LEONARD; JAMES GROVER, RICHARD HARTSHORNE, and RICHARD GARDINER. Expansion came almost immediately with COLONEL MORRIS for the mill needed vast amounts of wood for charcoal to smelt the iron; some estimates are that it required one acre of forest to fuel a furnace for a single day. He obtained large land grants for the unappropriated lands in the area and bought out the neighbors, such as the 700 acres owned by SAMUEL LEONARD in 1679 and the corn mill on the opposite bank of the river in 1683, which was forced to sell because the iron works had made the corn mill useless; MORRIS's purchases around the mill amounted to 6,200 acres.<sup>43</sup> In 1683 JAMES, now 76 years old, received £100 (the Governor's salary was £50 and a good annual salary was £20) from the iron works beyond the costs for travels to New York and New Haven. JAMES must have managed the operation until 1683 for that is when the records of the mill, including purchases of food and clothing for the slaves and paid workers, fall off. His health may have been deteriorating as he died in 1685. RICHARD GARDINER probably was a minority shareholder as *he* was sued for money he owed the iron works by COLONEL MORRIS and his nephew LEWIS MORRIS in 1688. The suit was probably filed in the Manor's own civil courts (see below). Actually, HANNAH (GROVER) GARDINER, JAMES's daughter, had inherited the debt from her husband RICHARD when he died. She, in turn, brought the debt with her as part of her dowry when she married WILLIAM WINTER. A married woman held no property and had no legal standing in courts of the time, thus the named defendant was her second husband WILLIAM WINTER. WILLIAM made a claim against the estate of RICHARD GARDINER for the cost of the judgment in 1695 which points to the success of the MORRIS lawsuit. Two years later, in 1697, LEWIS MORRIS filed a discharge of all debts owed by RICHARD GARDINER to the iron works which, if the value of the judgment was sufficient, all debts should have been paid off. As it happens, it would seem that the judgment covered only a portion of the monies owed to the iron works. The iron furnace he built was of such importance that, with prodding from MORRIS, the Colonial Legislature enacted statutes protecting the mill and its attendant industries from undue competition in 1676; these included a seven-year tax exemption, five rent-free years, certain





military exemptions for workers in times of war, workmen to be free from arrest for debt but not for suit, and extensive land grants and purchases to supply charcoal for iron smelting and the right to all iron ore deposits all the way north to the Raritan River at Perth Amboy. MORRIS' *Tintern Manor* was a legally recognized manor, complete with its own petty civil court, but not subservient land holdings and the title *Lord of Tintern Manor*. The name was subsequently corrupted to *Tinton Manor* and the iron works have been known by the name *Tinton Manor Iron Works* since. At its peak, Tinton Manor and the iron works contained over 6,000 acres. The facilities on the property included the forge, blast furnace, the manor house, separate dwellings for black and white workmen, and gristmills. MORRIS was a supporter of OLIVER CROMWELL and, upon the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660 under CHARLES II, MORRIS had forfeited all the land he owned in England. Evidently JAMES learned much from the LEONARDS as he was hired by COLONEL FRANCIS LOVELACE, Governor of New York to build a mill on Staten Island in 1673, thus becoming a millwright. On 21 August 1673, just after the Dutch take-over, JAMES went to the meeting of the *Commanders and Honorable Council of War of New Netherland* at Fort Willem Hendrik in New Orange (originally Fort Amsterdam in New Amsterdam, then Fort James in New York) to ask how he should proceed with the mill he was constructing on Staten Island for which the former governor had contracted to pay him £10 sterling. The Dutch had stripped LOVELACE of all property a few days earlier and creditors were closing in. He was allowed to continue building pursuant to the terms of the contract but it is not made clear who would assume the costs.<sup>44</sup> If he had already received payment there was little reason to approach the authorities for a ruling. He would return to the Fort on 26 August as an elected representative for Middleton. Perhaps one of his mills became the area called *Grover's Mills* where ORSON WELLES had his Martians land in *War of the Worlds*. When COLONEL MORRIS died in 1691 at his estate in Morrisiana, NY, he left the iron works, the Tinton Manor estate, and other property to his nephew, LEWIS MORRIS.<sup>45</sup> LEWIS MORRIS, the nephew, was more interested in politics and by 1714 the iron works has past its heyday though it would continue until 1844 at least. With all the key players gone, the incentive to make it successful was gone too. MORRIS did succeed in his political career, being appointed, in 1738, to the position of Governor of the Royal Province of New Jersey. It was the first time when the New Jersey Governor did not hold, concurrently, the post of Royal Governor of New York. Tinton Falls lies between Colts Neck and Eatontown and, today, it is Pine Brook that creates the falls at Tinton Falls; some things that are old, such as the name Iron Mill River, are just that, old.

#### CIVIC DUTIES: SURVEYOR, TOWN CLERK, COURT COMMISSIONER AND JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

JAMES served in multiple capacities on a civic level too.<sup>46</sup> He was appointed *Surveyor* of Middletown on 1 December 1667 and on the 31<sup>st</sup> he was deputed to *survey the land that is to be laid out in lots*; with RICHARD STOUT and JAMES ASHTON to assist him in this first division, the *shoale harbour meadows*. Navigation and surveying were allied sciences, so the old sea captain of the commonwealth became a land surveyor in the new English settlement of the lands granted to the DUKE OF YORK. He also surveyed the way through *the mountany feild and Poplar ffeild* which was to be made wider by April 1670, which seems to have impacted town lots 12, 13 and 14. For the second division, 35 lots laid out at *Weikey Necke*, three surveying assistants were appointed to help him on 23 May 1669: JAMES ASHTON, JONATHON HOLMES and JOHN RACMAN. On 12 June all acts regarding the laying out of the meadows were declared void, saving those laid at by JAMES GROVER and his assistants. On 15 June, JOHN SMITH was appointed to replace JAMES ASHTON; JAMES GROVER, JONATHON HOLMES and RICHARD STOUT were left to judge

what constituted an equal division of the meadows and these three are also to render a decision on each complaint of a defective meadow in the first division and give that person preference in the second division; JAMES had such a claim and was granted third choice for which he chose lot 25.

It has been written that after the Restoration, JAMES GROVER, as an Anabaptist and after the passage of the *Act of Uniformity* in 1662, and expanded in 1663, could not sail a government vessel.<sup>47</sup> The *Act of Uniformity* mandated the use of the Common Book of Prayer in Anglican churches and adherence was required to hold any government or church position; James, as an Anabaptist, could have been barred from receiving of sailing commissions as a private individual as well. This *Act* was one of four that comprised the *Clarendon Code*. The *Code* was named after the Lord Chancellor at the time, EDWARD HYDE, FIRST EARL OF CLARENDON though he was not a supporter of the four Acts. The *Corporation Act* (1661), the first to be enacted, required that all municipal officers take the Anglican Communion and take the *Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy*. This act could have been used to prevent JAMES from getting a Captain's commission. The two remaining, the *Conventicle Act* (1664) and the *Five-Mile Act* (1665), could not be used for such a purpose. As an Anabaptist, JAMES'S religion prevented him from swearing any oath and he could not hold any civil position since that was considered to be *of the world* and true believers belonged to God's kingdom. *Anabaptist* does not connote a religion *per se* but rather a set of ideals of which the first-and-foremost was freedom of religion. Infant baptism was another practice that Anabaptists avoided. The best-known group of Anabaptists today is the Amish. However, as the reader will shortly see, the fact that JAMES was a Baptist did not affect his ability to be appointed to several municipal positions.

Back to surveying the new village of Middletown – the town was sited near the native village of *Chaguasett* or *Choquasett*. The main road, really a cart-way, lies mostly east-to-west with the home lots, ranging from 8 to 12 acres, on both sides. The lots were numbered and assigned but due to the terrain, the surveyed lines often proved impractical and the early deed books are replete with efforts to make sense of the confusion of exceptions and alterations to the original survey. On 9 April 1670 this plan was modified by widening the road to six pole (99 feet) and setting the town limits to encompass one square mile: the mile length of the road and 160 rods (a half mile) either way from the road. More surveys came his way on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December in the following year when he made an agreement with the Town to lay out the meadows into town lots for one pound of merchantable blade tobacco for each acre. By 1688 all land east of Matawan Creek and Wickatunck had been surveyed and apportioned.

JAMES was Middletown *Town Clerk* between December 1667 and December 1668. On 27 February 1668 JAMES was one of the *Inhabitants of Midleten upon Navesink* that subscribed to the *Oath of Alegeance to the King and Fidelitie to the Lords Proprietors*, and the only Patentee among the 26 Middletown residents despite his Patent being issued by NICOLLS.<sup>48</sup> The May 1668 Government consisted of two houses: the 6-member upper house was appointed by CARTERET and called the *Governor's Council* while the lower house or *Colonial Assembly* had 12 seats, 2 for each of 6 locations. This Assembly had only 10 members as Middletown and Shrewsbury, representing the Monmouth Patent, had the same assemblymen: JAMES GROVER and JOHN BOUND, but they each had two votes. They were paid 3 shillings per day for these duties. The first meeting of the Provincial Assembly was in Elizabeth Towne and a provincial tax was approved as was a £5 tax on the townships with GROVER and BOWNE'S support. However, the Middleton town meeting, which decided on all public matters by majority vote of the freeholders, repudiated their vote. Their stance was that, in so doing, the Assembly was

recognizing CARTERET as Governor which was contrary to the NICOLLS Patent. Furthermore, if their deputies took the requested oath of loyalty, their rights under their patent were forfeited and they would be subject to whatever quitrents CARTERET demanded. This matter would finally be resolved in favor of the Patentees in 1672, or so they thought. CARTERET's capitulation was the event that caused the DUKE OF YORK to invalidate all of NICOLL's patents in NJ.<sup>49</sup> On 28 October 1668, a declaration was to be sent to the General Assembly protesting that JAMES GROVER and JOHN BOWNE had been illegally chosen Deputies in that notice of the meeting was not published long enough before the meeting for *the Inhabitants being many; and settled neere twenty miles distance* could not be gathered for the vote. This declaration was signed *Witness, JAMES GROVER, Town Clerk* which indicates that, rather than being charged by others for illegal representation, JAMES himself was making such a declaration for unknown reasons. Such reasons may have been to allow protests to any acts of the General Assembly to proceed without the interference of voting cast by JAMES during the Assembly's proceedings.

On 5 July 1670 JAMES signs his name as a patentee to an account of disbursements submitted by WILLIAM REAPE for reimbursable expenses of £89 07s 0d incurred in the procurement of land at Portland Point indicating his ongoing interest as one of the patentees.<sup>50</sup> He assisted at Court on 9 September 1670.

#### THE DUTCH RETURN

In May 1673 BOWNE and GROVER petitioned GOVERNOR CARTERET that their patent rights be honored until the Lords Proprietors were consulted but a Dutch intervention delayed the reply. In 1673 the Netherlands obtained the surrender of New York and New Jersey at which time New York became New Orange and Monmouth County became *Achter Coll* once again. The disagreements of 1668 having been forgotten, JAMES GROVER and JOHN BOWNE were elected as *Deputies* on 3 August 1673 pursuant to a summons from New Orange according to the Old Town Book of Middletown Township. Their duty was to present the townships surrender to the *Admirals and Commanders in Chief of the fleet, belonging to the States General and Prince of Orange*. On 26 August, JAMES was one of six selected to be *maiestrates* to be present to appear before the commander-in-chief and the Council of War at Fort Willem Hendrik at New Orange. They were scheduled to be sworn in at the Fort on 1 September; on this date they elected JOHN OGDEN to be *Schout* and SAMUEL HOPKINS to be *Secretary of Elizabeth Towne, WoodBridge, Shrousbury, New-Worke, Piscattewaij and Middeltowne* who were duly appointed to those positions by the Council.<sup>51</sup> The six returned home on 12 September after which some believe JAMES and JONATHON HOLMES were appointed *Captains* in the military. At the *Council of War* meeting at Fort Willem Hendrik on 14 September 1673 it was reported that CAPTAIN KNYFF and LIEUTENANT SNEL, by order of the *Council*, had sworn in the following elected officers of the militia at Middletown: JONATHON HULMES, *CAPTAIN*; JOHN SMITH, *LIEUTENANT*; THOMAS WHITLOCK, *ENSIGN*. It was also reported at this meeting that, of 60 men in *Middeltowne*, 52 took the Oath of Allegiance to *the High and Mighty Lords, the States-Generall of the United Provinces, & his serene Highnesse the Prince of Orange* however they are not named.<sup>52</sup> As JAMES had been elected *Deputie* in August, it is logical to assume that he was of the group that did take the Oath. The Dutch tenure was brief, less than a year and it may have been that the lists of inhabitants subscribing to the Oath of Allegiance and reported in September was the instrument of surrender.<sup>53</sup> On 8 August 1674, he served as a *Member of the Court* at nearby Portland Point, located near today's Atlantic Highlands.<sup>54</sup>

## ENGLISH AGAIN

The English returned and the much-delayed answer to the May 1673 petition was given – *petition denied*. He served as *Justice of the Peace* at the Court of Sessions held in Shrewsbury on 6 September 1676.<sup>55</sup> On 13 March 1675/6, JOHN BOWNE was the president of the *Commission for the County Court of Middleton* and Shrewsbury with JAMES GROVER and JOSEPH PARKER as associates.<sup>56</sup> Nearing 70-years-old, on 12 March 1677, he was appointed as a *Justice of the Peace* for Shrewsbury and on the same date one year later, he, JOSEPH PARKER, RICHARD GIBBONS, and JONATHAN HOLMES formed the *Commission for the Court* at Middletown and Shrewsbury.<sup>57</sup> He was again appointed to the *Court* in 1684.<sup>58</sup>

## CHURCH FOUNDER AND MILITARY MAN

The Middletown Baptist Church began operating informally in 1667 at the Upper Meeting House a few miles west of Middletown at Baptisttown (Holmdel since 1830) when the area was first inhabited. The Province's first Baptist cemetery is attached to this church with the first burial coming in 1684. The Middletown Baptist Church was formally constituted in 1688 under MINISTER THOMAS KILLINGWORTH and a Lower Meeting House was added at Middletown. The Upper Meeting House continues today as the Holmdel Baptist Church. The Middletown Baptist Church congregation was of the *Particular* or *Calvinistic Baptists*. These Baptists did not believe in infant baptism and held strong convictions that everyone be guaranteed liberty of conscious. The founders were WILLIAM CHEESEMAN, JAMES GROVER, JAMES GROVER, JUNIOR, RICHARD STOUT, JOHN WILSON, WILLIAM LAYTON, JOHN STOUT, WALTER WALL, WILLIAM COMPTON, JOHN COX, JAMES ASHTON, JONATHAN BOWN, JONATHAN HOLMES, JOHN BOWNE, OBADIAH HOLMES (son of the Baptist minister soon to be in Fenwick's Colony), GEORGE MOUNT, THOMAS WHITLOCK AND JOHN BEECKMAN; the first two named being direct ancestors of ours. WILLIAM NELSON states that *these men came from Rhode Island and Gravesend* when discussing the Baptist church; while it is a well-known fact that the majority of the early inhabitants were from Rhode Island and a large minority was from Gravesend; the numbers of Baptists in each group is harder to determine. Further, the Baptists from Rhode Island may have been followers of OBADIAH HOLMES from Swansea, Massachusetts; the *Particular Baptists* of Middletown would not have shared their buildings with HOLMES which makes the inclusion of the minister's son on the list of founders interesting. There is much disagreement among authors regarding the actual number of Baptists among the original Patentees; POMFRET maintains there were just three while GRIFFITHS states that 18 of the 24 Patentees were Baptist.<sup>59</sup>

The earliest church building, the Upper Meeting House, was situated a few miles west of Middletown at Baptisttown. The congregation was spread over a large area of what was then Monmouth, extending westerly to Upper Freehold and southerly to Jacobstown. The stated reason for selecting this area is suspect – access to Baptisttown was easier. That is the exact same reason given for selecting the site of Middletown village – it was the most accessible site as three great Native American paths intersected there. Baptisttown is also the place that some authors claim that JAMES and REBECCA GROVER first lived after arriving from New York. Baptisttown's name was changed to Holmdel in 1830 and the Upper Meeting House became the Holmdel Baptist Church in 1836. Some researchers go beyond merely being a church founder and identify JAMES as a *Reverend* but there is no supportive evidence for such a claim.

In addition to being a large land-owner, owning and operating several businesses, a church founder, and performing the civic duties described above, he also found time to include the following in his packed life:

- He was repeatedly appointed to the Monmouth County Militia: in December 1663 he is found as *1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant* of the New Jersey Militia's 1<sup>st</sup> Company; in 1672 a Commission was granted to JAMES GROVER to be *Lieutenant* of a foot company in Middletown; LIEUTENANT JAMES GROVER was appointed one of three *Military Commissioners* for Middletown and Shrewsbury on 4 July 1681 – the other two were CAPTAIN JOHN BOWNE and ENSIGN JOHN STOUT.<sup>60</sup> Given his age of 74 it is tempting to give this appointment to his son JAMES but the fact that one of his colleagues was the same person he had served with in the Assembly almost two decades earlier it seems that this was indeed our JAMES; and he was being reappointed *Lieutenant* as late as 1683<sup>61</sup>;
- He was one of seven men chosen to hold the money “received from the township” on 14 December 1667 and his name is found often in the township financial records at this time;
- On 4 January 1668, he recorded his "earmark" for his cattle running at large: *crap one the neere eare the right eare slitt downe the middle and the halfe on the out side cut off*; on 26 November 1684 it was recorded as: *crop Neare Eare and a square peece cut out of ye Under Side of ye farther Eare and a cut downe in the Square*.
- He was present as a patentee at court held at Portland Point in November and December 1669 and again in July 1670;
- On 14 May 1670, he was one of the appraisers of the personal property of JOHN JOHNSON, of Middletown;
- A meeting of the Patentees and their Associates was held at “JAMES GROVER’S house, at ye mill” on 22 February 1670 at which certain financial matters concerning the patents were to be declared for the record.<sup>62</sup> A similar meeting occurred there 15 May 1671.

*Marlpit Hall* served as the GROVER homestead for several generations. Located at 137 Kings Highway it is site # 1 of the Middletown Village Historic District. It may have been built by JAMES GROVER, SENIOR as its earliest construction dates to 1685; the current owners believe it was his son JAMES who built the original one-and-a-half story house. The earliest part of the structure is seen



at the extreme right which was built after the Dutch style homes that covered New Netherland. The large addition on the left was built in 1725.

One of the oldest buildings in the state, it keeps company with, and is often confused with, the nearby *Edward Taylor House*, residence of another of our ancestors, EDWARD TAYLOR at the same time (and site #62 of the Middletown Village Historic District). The confusion arises as the TAYLOR family owned *Marlpit Hall* from 1740 when JOHN TAYLOR bought and made substantial improvements to the structure until 1880; further one of the owners was named EDWARD TAYLOR – he bought the property in 1771. The TAYLOR and the GROVER families would unite when JAMES' granddaughter HANNAH GROVER married EDWARD'S son WILLIAM TAYLOR around 1710. *Marlpit Hall* is now an historic museum, owned and maintained by the Monmouth County Historical Association.<sup>63</sup> From the announcement of completion of renovations in 2001 comes:<sup>64</sup>

*There were even remnants of slavery that were tucked away "that are true educational tools. Not too many people realize that there was slavery in Middletown. We tend to think that it was confined to the South. What I find particularly interesting is that the evidence indicates that the slaves lived in the home with the owners, which was unusual for that era," said Middletown Mayor Joan Smith.*

*During the restoration of the home, clam shells and corn cobs were found hidden in the eaves and are believed to have been part of an African religious ritual.*

*Though there is evidence that part of the current structure dates back to 1686, wood-core analysis proved that no section of Marlpit Hall can be traced further back than 1756.*

*According to Griffith, as "part of a plan to encourage bringing people to the area in 1667, the historical English figure James Grover Sr. had the rights to the 10-acre property conferred upon him by English Governor Richard Nicholls as part of the Monmouth Patent. It was found out that in 1686, his son, James Grover Jr., built a one-and-a-half story home on the same Kings Highway property where he lived." There are no remaining records of that house.*

*After Grover Jr. died, the house was bought by John Wall in 1715 and by John Taylor in 1736. Paperwork on the property was missing for about 20 years, though the next deed holder, through some sort of debt acquisition in the 1750s, was a man named Barnabas Rider, according to the association.*

*Rider had ownership of what was the then-half-finished home that is now standing because Taylor had torn down the original 1686 homestead on the property on which he built a vernacular piece of architecture that reflected a blend of English and Dutch features, one of which was a showy Georgian-style center hall plan.*

*The original carpenter who started building the house under Taylor's ownership did not complete the work, and it was completed by a less-skilled carpenter.*

*After Rider died, John Taylor's brother Edward bought the house and lived there until his death in 1783. Edward Taylor was known to be a well-to-do farmer and miller; he was a slave-holder.*

*Because of his ties to the Loyalist party during the Revolutionary War, Edward Taylor was arrested and suffered the loss of wealth and the status that came with it in Monmouth*

County. In 1777, he passed on information to his son, George, who was a colonel and commander of a local Loyalist unit that raided his former neighbors.

Edward's son, John, inherited Marlpit Hall from his father, and it remained in the family until 1930 with the death of Mary Holmes Taylor, who never married.

There were three women named Mary Holmes Taylor: John Taylor's wife, who lived 1743-1819; their granddaughter (1814-1897), who married her first cousin, Joseph Dorset Taylor, and built Orchard House adjacent to Marlpit Hall; and Mary and Joseph's daughter (?-1930), who saved the house from demolition in 1911 when the state decided to alter Kings Highway.

After Mary and Joseph moved to the new Orchard House (now the Taylor-Butler House, also owned by the association) in 1853, Marlpit was leased to a series of tenant farmers and was not maintained.

Upon the death of the third Mary Holmes Taylor, who eventually became the owner of both Marlpit Hall and Orchard House, Marlpit Hall was sold in 1930 to a well-known Monmouth County antiques dealer, Edna Netter, on behalf of Margaret Moore Riker Haskell, who in 1936 donated it to the Monmouth County Historical Association.

Mrs. Haskell was described by Griffith as "a well-respected figure in a historically significant trail of women who restore homes. Marlpit Hall was the MCHA's first acquisition. Mrs. Haskell had it entirely rescued and restored and furnished with 18th century American furniture before it was handed over to her. She was a trustee at the time."

The Hall is one of the structures in the Middletown Village Historic District, which includes properties clustered along Kings Highway and Red Hill Road.

#### THE END OF A PRODUCTIVE LIFE

Not much is known about JAMES'S cause of death but some records claim that he was killed by Indians while on a business trip to the town he may have once lived in the early 1660s, Whitehall. That's certainly one hardy 78-year-old to be traveling on horseback in winter for that distance! We can be almost certain that JAMES was buried in Middletown, somewhere. The Holmdel (Middletown Upper Meeting House) Baptist Cemetery is a likely candidate; the Middletown Baptist Cemetery is a possibility but it is not as old as the one in Holmdel; the Throckmorton-Lippit-Taylor Burying Ground on Penelope Lane in Middletown which dates from 1684 is another candidate; despite these options, the consensus is that he was buried on the land where he lived.

On 1 December 1685, 78-year-old JAMES signed his Last Will and Testament:

In the name of God AMEN, I James Grover, Senr. of Middletown, County of Monmouth, in East Jersey, being sencible of my Mortality and the present of perfect and sound mind ... I bequeath my soul to Almighty God that gave it, and my body to the Earth, etc.--- And as for my Temporal Estate as it has blessed God to bestow upon me, i doe Give, Order and Dispose of the same in manner and for me following ...

I give and bequeath . . . that my Mansion house, my Mill with all that belongs thereto, and all my land lying on the N-E side of Mill Creek, together with all my

Meadow land adjoining or Elcewhere, shall be divided into three equal parts, one third I give to my son JAMES GROVER, one third to my son-in-law BENJAMIN BORDEN, for sake of his wife, my daughter ABIGAIL, and the other third part to my son-in-law RICHARD GARDINER for the sake of my daughter HANNAH, his wife with all the privelidges & appurtenances thereunto belonging, to them and to theire Heires . . . .

All the rest of my Estate, Movable or Immovable, both household and stuffe, tools, implements - cattle, horses, swine and everything elce that is mine . . . after the decease of me and my wife . . . shall be equally divided between my five children, JAMES, JOSEPH, SAFETY, ABIGAIL, and HANNAH. .

After my decease, all my Estate, both Real and Personal shall be and Remaine in the possession of my Deare Wife REBECCA for her Support and Maintenance as long as she shall live or remain a widow . . .

I doe Ordain and Appoint my son JAMES GROVER and my son-in-law RICHARD GARDINER to be my Execut<sup>rs</sup>, and none other after my decease, to see this Will and Testament is performed.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and fixed my seale, this ffirst day of December, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Six hundred Eighty & five.

JAMES GROVER Sen. [Seal]

Wits.: Richard Hartshorne

Tho. Webley

His will was proved by the witnesses before JOHN THROCKMORTON at Middletown on 28 January 1686. On 3 February 1686, RICHARD GARDINER *of Navesinck* and JAMES GROVER, JUNIOR, posted bond as executors; SAMUEL LEONARD was a fellow bondsman. The inventory of JAMES' estate is extensive and can be found as referenced.<sup>65</sup>

An Inventory filed 5 January 1686 amounts to	£ 228 13 00	and includes:
House, mill and land	120 00 00	
Pewter dishes & pots	02 00 00	
Cattle, household effects	106 13 00	
Completed 28 December 1685		
Appraisers were JOHN WILLIAMS, JOHN THROCKMORTON and WILLIAM LAYTON.		

An Accounting dated 14 January 1686 totals	£ 98 18 00	and includes:
28 Dec 1685 – Funeral exp	05 10 00	
25 Oct 1685 – Threshing & carting wheat	01 04 00	
05 Nov 1685 – Widow's maintenance	15 00 00	

An Accounting was filed on 14 June 1686 by both executors, and it showed payments were made out of his estate to DAVID BROWNE; JOHN PERCE; JAMES ROBINSON; JOHN STOUT; WIDOW ABIGAIL LIPPINCOTT; JOSEPH GROVER, JUNIOR; JOHN WILSON; JOB THROCKMORTON; ROBERT HAMILTON; and BENJAMIN BORDEN.<sup>66</sup>

An Accounting dated 28 October 1686 includes:	
28 Dec 1685 – Funeral and fencing of grave	06 00 00



03 Jun 1686 Quitrents to Gov Lowry	20 04 00
n/d – to the expense of the funeral of the widow	05 00 00

Not all the expenses submitted in the last document were allowed. As there appears the cost for the funeral of the widow, *i.e.* REBECCA, she must have died after 5 November 1685 when widow's maintenance was claimed and before 28 October 1686 when funeral expenses were submitted.

REBECCA survived her husband by less than a year, dying before or during October 1686 as records dated in that month state that she is deceased.

As owner of one share of the Monmouth Patent JAMES, and his heirs, were the recipients of the Proprietary Dividends. One share yielded lands as follows: 10,000 acres for the First Dividend; 5,000 acres for the Second Dividend of 1698; and 2,500 acres for the Third Dividend of 1702. Additional land grants for share-holders included four 9-acre lots and 25 acres of townland at Perth Amboy; to a tract of up to 1,000 acres at *Chingerosa*, the South River, the upper Raritan or Cedar Brook; up to 500 acres at *Wickatunk* in Monmouth County; and two tracts of 1,000 acres and 200 acres of *Barnegat land* which seems to have been anywhere south of Shrewsbury.<sup>67</sup> Rights to some or all of these dividends were sold to GAVEN DRUMMOND in a transaction recorded in 1714 as mentioned earlier.

#### Issue:

- 1) JOHN GROVER: apparently died young as he is not mentioned in his father's will of 1685. Often confused with a person of the same name who married (1) ANN KILLINGBECK in 1677 and (2) ALICE HOGGE in 1700.
- 2) JOSIAH GROVER: apparently died young as he is not mentioned in his father's will of 1685.
- 3) JAMES GROVER, IV:<sup>68</sup> He was sometimes designated as JUNIOR to distinguish him from his father but he was the fourth male in line with this name; two grandsons of JAMES III, the son of JOSEPH and the son of SAFETY are sometimes found as *JAMES GROVER*, *JUNIOR* after this JAMES stopped using that descriptive. His wife was named ALICE; he died 1 April 1715 in Middletown, Monmouth County, NJ. He was one of the original patentees of Monmouth County, receiving lot number twenty-five on 30 December 1667. He obtained a Warrant *in Right of himself and his wife* for 240 acres on 13 September 1676. A record dated May 1677 of a Survey for 190 acres references a Warrant dated 13 November 1676. A Conveyance is dated 12 June 1677.<sup>69</sup> A confirmation of the transfer of 500+ acres in *Grover's New Invention* from his father in 1685 is found in East Jersey records the following year.<sup>70</sup> Pursuant to the terms of his father's Will he received one-third of the mansion, mill, meadow, and other lands and one-fifth of the rest of the estate when his mother died. Looking at two deeds will help give us some idea of the extent of these parental bequests. On 13 November 1708 JAMES signed two deeds, the first an Indenture and the second a Quit-claim, transferring his interest in several tracts of land to WILLIAM WINTER, the second husband of his sister HANNAH.<sup>71</sup> All the interest in these tracts came into JAMES's possession according to the terms of the 1685 Will of his father which had two main groups of properties. One group was

shared by five heirs after REBECCA died while the second group was shared immediately by the three mentioned below.

- One-fifth interest in 180 acres *southwest of the Mill Brook* and southeast of the *old mill tract* (see below);
- One-fifth interest in the one half of the woodland *by the meadow* that was surveyed to JAMES SENIOR by GEORGE KEITH on 10 December 1685 for 180 acres;
- One-third interest in the moiety of meadow on the *east side of Shoal Harbor Creek* that was given to RICHARD GARDINER by a bequest in the Will of JAMES SENIOR; this is, in all likelihood, the same meadow as that listed below. The bequest referred to above is the same bequest that is referred to next, there being no other bequest to RICHARD.
- One-third interest in the two tracts that were conveyed by the 1685 Will to son JAMES GROVER; with a third interest going to son-in-law BENJAMIN BORDEN, for the sake of his daughter ABIGAIL BORDEN, and a third-interest going to son-in-law RICHARD GARDINER, for the sake of his daughter HANNAH. The two tracts were released and quit-claimed to WILLIAM; they are:
  - Land on the northwest side of Middle Run and *northeast side of Mill Creek*; and
  - The moiety of the meadow at Shoal Harbor with all the housings, millstones and iron work and all the utensils of the *old mill* bordered by meadows owned by ASHTON, JOBS and DAVIS. This is the same as the third property listed above.

On the same date WILLIAM and HANNAH WINTER signed a quit-claim to JAMES for two of the above tracts: (1) on *the east most side of the Middle Run, On the north east side of the Mill Creek* which was part of the group of properties owned by JAMES, *the elder* that was split into thirds (and is the fourth one described above); and (2) half of the meadow at Shoal Harbor (the 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>, one above).<sup>72</sup> As HANNAH was one of the five to share in the group of properties distributed after the death of their mother REBECCA, by these deeds she, or her husband WILLIAM WINTER, now holds a two-fifths interest in the first two properties for which WILLIAM paid £38. Because a third interest of the last two properties went to HANNAH's first husband RICHARD and her second husband WILLIAM bought the interest held by BENJAMIN BORDEN in 1690, it would seem this transfer by Quit-claim gave her, or WILLIAM, full interest in those properties. This is not certain however because the one-third interest RICHARD had by the terms of the 1685 Will may have passed to his children by HANNAH upon his death in 1687. The third property listed is the same as the last; the purpose of the two deeds was probably to transfer some aspect of the property in the first deed and others in the second.

JAMES GROVER is found as Middletown *Town Clerk* on 6 January 1688 which could not be the father as he had died. The town clerk is recording a newly-enacted bounty on wolves:

*It is ordered that if any one shall kill a wolfe hee shall have twenty schillings for his paines, all soe if any Indian shall kill a wolfe and bring the head to the constable: The Indian soe doing shall have for his reward twenty gilders, provided it can bee discerned that it (was) killd within ten miles of the towne; this order is disannulled concerning the payment of 20 gilders to Indians.*

A JAMES GROVER, with JOHN STOUT and THOMAS RENSHALL, inventoried the estate of JOHN JOHNSON of Middletown on 14 May 1690. It is not known if this was the same person. On 29 January 1696 he recorded his father's 1684 ear mark as his own.<sup>73</sup> In 1702 he sold land to JARAT WALL and in 1708 he sold 150 acres in Shrewsbury Township to THOMAS TILTON. This tract is now in Wall Township about a mile south of Spring Lake and is where the Villa Park section is located. On the 11<sup>th</sup> of June *in the tenth year of the Reign of ... LADY ANNIE*, 1711, JAMES GROVER sold 2 adjacent tracts, each one half of the original purchase in size, by Shoal Harbor. One is described as being on the north bank of Shrewsbury River below Red Bank *from Grover's creek which empties into the Shrewsbury and the Mill brook* while the other is north of the *Neversinks River* and east of Mill Creek; the former is the woodland adjacent to the latter, that being the 20 acres of meadow on the east side of Shoal Harbor Creek as found in other deeds. JAMES PATTERSON, SENIOR; paid £150 and now owned half of the meadow on the east side of Shoal Harbor Creek, 10 acres, and half of the adjacent woodland, 8 acres. PATTERSON would buy *the other halves* from WILLIAM WINTER in 1718.<sup>74</sup> Recorded on 12 June 1714 is a land record in which JAMES GROVER of Middletown transfers to GAVEN DRUMMOND of Loch Harbor, Shrewsbury for *a competent sum of money* four items: *one-half of one-twelfth of one-forty-eighth* of the Province of East New Jersey; the *right to 280 acres in Right of the Second and Third Dividend* and 46 acres of land and meadow, except *reserving to JAMES GROVER, the Rights of rents on 223 acres (see below)*; right to 290 acres *to be taken up in Right of the Second and Third Dividend of shares of property*; and 46 acres land and meadow at Barnegat (a corruption of the Dutch *Barendegat* meaning *broken waters*, a reference to the tumultuous waters found at the inlet), conveyed by deed of THOMAS COOPER, 5 February 1706 and released to him and *fellow purchasers* by deed of 2 October 1768. Within this land record is the statement that JAMES GROVER *was seized of one-half of one-twelfth of one-forty-eighth and Rights of rents on 233 acres*.<sup>75</sup> On 3 June 1751 the deed for JAMES GROVER, JUNIOR buying the former MORRIS plantation of about 70 acres from his father JAMES GROVER, SENIOR was finally recorded.<sup>76</sup> In turn, JAMES GROVER, JUNIOR, a single yeoman of Shrewsbury, *son of JAMES GROVER of Middletown, yeoman*, sells this land to DANIEL POLHEMUS of Middletown for £338, 3s, 1p.<sup>77</sup> While it is possible to not record a deed for 65 years, it seems unlikely and more research is needed to flush this transaction out. In his will dated 18 March 1715 is found reference to 600 acres in Monmouth County that he bequeathed to his nephew JAMES GROVER, son of JOSEPH and HANNAH GROVER. His estate was valued at £129 2s 6p and the will proved 16 April 1715. Four children including:

- a) REBECCA GROVER: married MORDECAI GIBBONS.
  - b) MARTHA GROVER: born 1685 in Dover Township, Monmouth County, NJ; married JOHN VANE/VAUGHAN. Received land as father's heir, recorded 31 May and November 1722.<sup>78</sup> One known child.
  - c) HESTER GROVER: married JOHN GIBERSON/GUYBERSON. Received land as father's heir, recorded 31 May and 31 November 1722.
- 4) **JOSEPH GROVER**: married 1<sup>st</sup> cousin **HANNAH LAWRENCE** around 1684 in Monmouth County, NJ. Their story is continued in a separate section.

- 5) ABIGAIL GROVER: married BENJAMIN BORDEN on 22 September 1670 in Shrewsbury, Monmouth County, NJ. He was born 16 May 1649 in Portsmouth, Newport County, RI, the son of RICHARD BORDEN and Joan FOWLE. BENJAMIN *for the sake of his wife ABIGAIL* received a one-third interest in the mansion, mill, meadow, and other lands owned by his father-in-law and one-fifth interest in the rest of the estate when her mother died pursuant to the terms of JAMES' will of 1685. He sold both the one-third and one-fifth interests to WILLIAM WINTER, the second husband of ABIGAIL's sister HANNAH on 3 May 1690 for £55.<sup>79</sup> On 8 January 1700 BENJAMIN BORDEN, of Middlesex, purchased a one-third part of the WILLIAM DOCKWRA tract, south of Arneystown, from our ancestor ANTHONY WOODWARD who had bought it in 1698.<sup>80</sup> ABIGAIL died on 8 January 1720, probably in Evesham, Burlington County, NJ; but Middletown is also possible. BENJAMIN then married a woman named SUSANNAH. He died in June 1728 in Burlington, Burlington County, NJ.
  - a) RICHARD BORDEN: born 9 January 1672 in Monmouth County, NJ; married MARY WORTHLEY on 17 April 1695; RICHARD died at Evesham 9 July 1744. 2 children.
  - b) BENJAMIN BORDEN: born 6 April 1675 in Monmouth County, NJ; married his first-cousin ZERUIAH WINTER 1705-1711; he died 1742-43 in Winchester, Frederick County, VA.
  - c) JAMES BORDEN: born 6 September 1677 Shrewsbury, Monmouth County, NJ; wife named MARY; died December 1727 in Freehold, Monmouth County, NJ; 9 children.
  - d) REBECCA BORDEN: born 8 June 1680 in Monmouth County, NJ.
  - e) SAFETY BORDEN: born 6 September 1682 in Monmouth County, NJ; married MARTHA GROVER, though some researchers believe MARTHA CHEESMAN may be correct; he died November 1757 in Bordentown, Burlington County, NJ.
  - f) AMY BORDEN: born 4 March 1684 in Monmouth County, NJ; married JOSIAH FOSTER; 3 children.
  - g) JOSEPH BORDEN was born 12 May 1687 Shrewsbury, Monmouth County, NJ; married his first-cousin in NJ, not once, but twice by the age of 30 ("kissing-cousins" definitely!). He married REBECCA GROVER as well as her sister SUSANNA GROVER. SUSANNA was born about 1687 and REBECCA a couple years later, probably in Monmouth County, NJ; they were daughters of JOSEPH GROVER and HANNAH LAWRENCE (#4 above). The retold histories are confusing, but it seems that REBECCA was the first wife, dying before 1717, followed by the marriage to SUSANNA around 1717. SUSANNA died 11 March 1744 in Bordentown, Burlington County, NJ. JOSEPH married a third time (but not a cousin) – to ELIZABETH PANCOAST in October 1750 in Burlington County, NJ. JOSEPH died 22 September 1765 in Bordentown, Burlington County, NJ and was buried in the *Old Bordentown Cemetery*; ELIZABETH died December 1782 in Burlington Co, NJ.
  - h) JONATHAN BORDEN: born 14 April 1690 Middletown, Monmouth County, NJ; married MARY EARL 26 November 1730 in Burlington County, NJ. She was born in Rhode Island, the daughter of WILLIAM EARL and ELIZABETH (SHARP?). JONATHON died after 1739 in Chester, Burlington County, NJ.
  - i) DAVID BORDEN: born 8 March 1692 in Middletown, Monmouth County, NJ.
  - j) SAMUEL BORDEN: born 8 April 1696 in Middletown, Monmouth County, NJ; buried in Colestown, Gloucester County, NJ.
- 6) SAFETY GROVER: wife's given name was probably MERCY. Their story is continued in a separate section.

- 7) HANNAH GROVER: married RICHARD GARDINER before December 1685 in Middletown, Monmouth County, NJ. RICHARD *for the sake of his wife HANNAH* received a one-third interest in the mansion, mill, meadow, and other lands owned by his father-in-law and a one-fifth interest in the rest of the estate when her mother died pursuant to the terms of JAMES' will of 1685. RICHARD died in 1687 at the same place. An inventory of his estate, dated 30 December 1687, valued it at £45 8s 6p. The estate, with HANNAH as administratrix, would not be settled until 1704.<sup>81</sup> They had 2 children:
- a) RICHARD GARDINER, JUNIOR
  - b) JOSEPH GARDINER

HANNAH then married WILLIAM WINTER in 1688 in Middletown, Monmouth County, NJ. He was the son of OBADIAH WINTER and MARGARET CROMWELL. On 3 May 1690 WILLIAM bought, for £55, the one-third interest in the mansion, mill, meadow and land that was left to BENJAMIN BORDEN in consideration of his wife ABIGAIL by the terms of the 1685 Will of her father. In September 1688 WILLIAM WINTER, as the husband of the widow of RICHARD GARDINER was sued by LEWIS MORRIS and COLONEL LEWIS MORRIS of Tinton Manor for a debt which was apparently successful as WILLIAM made a claim against RICHARD'S estate on 14 May 1695 for the cost of judgment of this suit. MORRIS filed a discharge for all debts owed by RICHARD on 12 February 1697. On 14 April 1704 HANNAH filed an accounting that valued RICHARD'S estate at £9 and the following month WILLIAM was granted a *quietus* or final settlement for the estate. In November 1708 WILLIAM purchased the interest in the properties of HANNAH'S father from her brother JAMES as detailed in the deeds referenced above which left him in full possession of the mansion house, mill, land, and meadow properties and with a two-fifths interest in the two 180-acre tracts. The *meadow* just mentioned refers to the 20-acre meadow on the east side of Shoal Harbor Creek while the *land* refers to the 16-acre tract of woodland adjacent to said meadow. JAMES Grover sold half of the meadow and the woodland to JAMES PATTERSON in 1711 (see above). By 1718 WILLIAM was in possession of the other halves, having purchased all the shares or interest by this time. On 25 March 1718 WILLIAM transferred by quit-claim both the 10 acres of meadow and the 8 acres of woodland to JAMES PATTERSON without remuneration for reasons unknown.<sup>82</sup> On 5 December 1720 WILLIAM WINTER, yeoman, and SAFETY GROVER, gentleman, both of Middletown bought 10 acres of land from GAWEN DRUMMOND, gentleman of Lachaber in the town of Shrewsbury, for £5.<sup>83</sup> This 10-acre tract was surveyed for them by JACOB DENNIS on 24 August 1721 and WILLIAM WINTER signed a quit-claim deed to SAFETY on 5 April 1722 for the western half of the 10 acres. WILLIAM kept the eastern half which he left to his son ANDREW.

WILLIAM wrote his Will in 1722 in which he gave to his eldest son JOHN *4 acres of salt meadow on east side of Shoal Harbor*; to his second son ANDREW he gave *land where testator lived, with land bought of JAMES GROVER and currier's knife and all tools of the currier's and shoemaker's trade*; to his youngest son JAMES he gave a *great Bible and carpenter's tools*; and after wife's marriage or death the residue of the estate to his five children and *two sons-in-law, RICHARD and JOSEPH GARDINER* who are assumed to be step-sons, not *sons-in-law* but either is a possibility. Mention is also made of his daughters ZERUIAH BORDEN and REBECCA APPLGATE, grandson BENJAMIN WINTER and wife HANNAH. Executors were his sons ANDREW and JAMES and it was witnessed by RICHARD APPLGATE, RICHARD GIBBENS and BENJAMIN GIBBINES. It was submitted to the Court by ANDREW WINTER, the *surviving executor*, on 13 June 1733 with an Inventory valued at £101

15s 8p.<sup>84</sup> He died in the first half of 1733 and probably in Middletown, Monmouth County, NJ. They had:

- c) JOHN WINTER: 2 children with BENJAMIN being the younger.
- d) ANDREW WINTER: born 1691; wife named ALLES; 5 children; died 30 April 1760.
  - i) JAMES WINTER: born 1732, Monmouth County. Married MARY SHEPHERD, daughter of JOSEPH and REBECCA SHEPHERD, granddaughter of THOMAS SHEPHERD JUNIOR and DEBORAH GROVER. JAMES died on 1 March 1777 during as a Revolutionary War prisoner in a *Sugar House Prison* in Manhattan. As the name implies, these were sugar houses converted for use as prisons. The most infamous was the Livingston Sugar House Prison on Liberty Street; another was the Rhinelander Sugar House Prison was *between William and Rose Streets* as stated on an old postcard. During 1777 the bodies of prisoners who died were thrown in a ditch in Trinity Churchyard. MARY died 4 July 1824, Middletown.
- e) JAMES WINTER: died before June 1733.
- f) REBECCA WINTER: born 1692, married RICHARD APPLEGATE in 1705; RICHARD signed a will on 7 November 1732 which was proved at *Crossweeks in Upper Freehold*, Monmouth County, on 20 January 1733. Eight or nine children.
- g) ZERUIAH WINTER: born 1689, married (1) first-cousin BENJAMIN BORDEN (above) between 1705 and 1711; she married (2) JOSEPH WRIGHT before 30 August 1748 on which date they both filed quit-claim deeds disavowing any rights of inheritance in the others' property in which JOSEPH specifies that property owned by ZERUIAH is by virtue of her being the widow of BENJAMIN BORDEN, in Prince William County, Virginia.<sup>85</sup> She died in Winchester, Frederick County, Virginia several years later than the 1743 reported by some. Five or six children are usually attributed to ZERUIAH and BENJAMIN BORDEN, but some researchers have as many as ten.

#### SOURCES:

The following 4 references are cited by Harold W. Boles of Kalamazoo, MI in his work on JAMES GROVER and do not appear in the endnotes:

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- Garrett-Pegge, J. W. (Ed.). A Transcript of the First Volume, 1538-1636, of the Parish Register of Chesham, in the County of Buckingham. London: Elliot Stock (1904, pp. 101, 212)
- New Jersey Archives (NJA) [1] (23, 196-7) and (21, 168)
- Roberts (1955, 167-73)

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#### ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> The information contained herein is based on research performed by other genealogists and posted on the internet. None of the presented information has been verified by this author unless stated or referenced. Land transactions citations are from New Jersey Department of State Non-Governmental Records – East and West Jersey Proprietors database: <http://www.nj.gov/state/archives/catppropriet.html>. Information from FamilySearch pedigree, in *italics*, can be found in Taylor lineage file.

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- <sup>2</sup> Frank Ellis, History of Monmouth County New Jersey (Philadelphia, RT Peck & Co; 1885) p. 586. Digital version at archive.org.
- <sup>3</sup> Maude Voris, "The 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Gravesend Reformed Church, 1655 – 1955," (Brooklyn, NY: 1955).
- <sup>4</sup> Bayard Tuckerman, Makers of American History: Peter Stuyvesant (NY: Dodd, Mead and Company; 1893) pages 88 – 92.
- <sup>5</sup> Francis Baxter, The Baxter Family, Descendants of George and Thomas Baxter (NY: Tobias A. Wright; 1913) pages 215 – 217.
- <sup>6</sup> E.B. O'Callaghan (ed) Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York. Volume 2: Holland Documents VIII – XVI, 1657 – 1678 (Albany: Weed, Parsons & Co; 1853) pages 152, 217, 367, 401, 604.
- <sup>7</sup> John Romeyn Brodhead, History of the State of New York: First Period 1609 – 1664 (NY: Harper & Brothers; 1853) pages 337, 411, 596 – 598, 620.
- <sup>8</sup> E.B. O'Callaghan (ed) Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York. Volume 2: Holland Documents VIII – XVI, 1657 – 1678 (Albany: Weed, Parsons & Co; 1853) pages 162 – 163.
- <sup>9</sup> John Romeyn Brodhead, History of the State of New York: Second Period 1664 – 1691 (NY: Harper & Brothers; 1871) p. 562.
- <sup>10</sup> William Nelson (ed), The New Jersey Coast in Three Centuries, Volume 1 (Lewis Publishing, Co., NY, 1902) pages 153-4.
- <sup>11</sup> James S. Brown, "A New history of old Tinton Falls" in *Historical Scrapbook of the Borough of Tinton Falls, New Jersey*, William A. Barrett, editor (The Tinton Falls Bicentennial Committee; 1976) 6.
- <sup>12</sup> James M. Wilkenson, "The Hubbard Family" Jim WilkWorks Genealogical Files; <http://www.jimwilkworks.com/GENHUBBARDDATA02.html>
- <sup>13</sup> Bayard Tuckerman, Makers of American History: Peter Stuyvesant (NY: Dodd, Mead and Company; 1893) page 100.
- <sup>14</sup> John Romeyn Brodhead, History of the State of New York: First Period 1609 – 1664 (NY: Harper & Brothers; 1853) page 724.
- <sup>15</sup> David T. Valentine, History of the City of New York (NY: Edmund Jones and Company; 1858) page 134.
- <sup>16</sup> Thomas S Griffiths, A History of Baptists in New Jersey (Bar Press Publishing Company: Hightstown, NJ; 1904) p.15.
- <sup>17</sup> Secretary of State, Albany, NY, Deeds, *Liber 3*, page 5.
- <sup>18</sup> Monmouth County Deeds, Book A, p. 1.
- <sup>19</sup> *op. cit.* Nelson page 21.
- <sup>20</sup> "Grants and Concessions," p. 663; EJR, 3, 53; cited in NJA[1], 1, 88-9. This is another document of great historical significance, printed in full in the reference cited.
- <sup>21</sup> Edwin Salter, A History of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, (Bayonne, NJ: F. Gardner & Son, Publishers; 1890)
- <sup>22</sup> Samuel Smith, History of the Colony of Nova-Cæsaria, or New Jersey, (James Parker: Burlington, NJ; 1765) p.63.
- <sup>23</sup> William Nelson (ed), The New Jersey Coast in Three Centuries, Volume II, (Lewis Publishing, Co., NY, 1902) pp.156-7.
- <sup>24</sup> Board of Proprietors of the Province of East Jersey, Deeds, Book 1 (Part B) p 68; cited by Roberts, 1955, 168.
- <sup>25</sup> Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, I, Folio 271.
- <sup>26</sup> Edwin Salter and George C. Beekman, Old Times in Old Monmouth, (Freehold, NJ) 1887 (reprinted Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1980) page 3.
- <sup>27</sup> E.B. O'Callaghan (ed); Calendar of Historical Manuscripts in the Secretary of State at Albany, NY Part II: English Manuscripts 1664 – 1776 (Albany, NY: Weed, Parsons & Co; 1863), page 25.
- <sup>28</sup> General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997: Liber II, Part 2, Folios 25, 28. Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, L, Folio 153.
- <sup>29</sup> Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, L, Folio 234 and 1, Folio 376.
- <sup>30</sup> General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997: Liber II, Part 2, Folio 61. Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, Liber I, Folio 173.

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- <sup>31</sup> Board of Proprietors of the Province of East Jersey, Deeds, Book 3, page 124; cited in NJA[1], 21, 102.
- <sup>32</sup> General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997: L (EJ), Folio 180.
- <sup>33</sup> Richard S. Hutchinson, *East New Jersey Land Records, 1715 – 1722* (Books A2 and B2) (Lewis, DE: Colonial Roots, 2007) page 68 or 168. See also Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, page 64, recorded 18 June 1714.
- <sup>34</sup> General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997: O, Folio 178.
- <sup>35</sup> Richard S. Hutchinson, *East New Jersey Land Records, 1757 – 1763* (Books I2 and K2) (Lewis, DE: Colonial Roots, 2005) page 66.
- <sup>36</sup> General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997: L (EJ), Folio 225.
- <sup>37</sup> *op.cit.* Salter, History of for East Jersey Records Liber No. 3
- <sup>38</sup> Board of Proprietors of the Province of East Jersey, Deeds, Book 3, page 11 (?)
- <sup>39</sup> Middletown (NJ) Town Book extraction in Stillwell, J. E. *Historical and Genealogical Miscellany: Early Settlers of New Jersey and their Descendants*. New York: private print, 1903-16 (1906-07, V2, p.150 ff); (and) *supra* Nelson, History of the New Jersey Coast, Volume 2, pages 156-7 provide a thorough and interesting account of this matter.
- <sup>40</sup> *op.cit.* Ellis, History of Monmouth County, page 543.
- <sup>41</sup> Dean Freiday, *Tinton Manor: The Iron Works*, Historical Scrapbook of the Borough of Tinton Falls, New Jersey (The Tinton Falls Bicentennial Committee; 1976) pp. 11-22. This author states the Steenwyck mortgage was for 50% but this author's research has shown the sequence of events in this biography is the correct one. Digital version available.
- <sup>42</sup> James S. Brown, *New History of Old Tinton Falls*, Historical Scrapbook of Tinton Falls (*vide supra*), pp. 5 – 9; originally published in *The New Shrewsbury Siren*, (New Shrewsbury First Aid Squad; February 1962). Digital version available.
- <sup>43</sup> Sand Hill Indian History and New Jersey Native American History The Story of the Cherokee Indians, Chapter 8: Early Days Around Tinton Falls; digital version at <http://www.sandhillindianhistory.org/>
- <sup>44</sup> E.B. O'Callaghan (ed) Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York. Volume 2: Holland Documents VIII – XVI, 1657 – 1678 (Albany: Weed, Parsons & Co; 1853) page 580.
- <sup>45</sup> Tinton Falls Iron Works Records, 1668-1761; Manuscript Collections, Monmouth County Historical Society, 70 Court Street Freehold, 7 June 1980
- <sup>46</sup> Henry Lawrence Everett, Old Middletown Town Book 1667 to 1700 (reprint; not dated). Most of the unreferenced land transactions, civil and military appointments, etc are from this source.
- <sup>47</sup> *op. cit.* Nelson, History of the New Jersey Coast, Volume 1, pp. 153-4.
- <sup>48</sup> John E. Pomfret, The Province of East New Jersey: 1609 - 1702 (Princeton Univ Press, NJ; 1962)
- <sup>49</sup> John E. Pomfret, Colonial New Jersey – A History (Charles Scribner's Sons, NY; 1973) pp 28-35
- <sup>50</sup> *op.cit.* Salter, History of
- <sup>51</sup> E.B. O'Callaghan (ed) Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York. Volume 2: Holland Documents VIII – XVI, 1657 – 1678 (Albany: Weed, Parsons & Co; 1853) page 595.
- <sup>52</sup> E.B. O'Callaghan (ed) Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York. Volume 2: Holland Documents VIII – XVI, 1657 – 1678 (Albany: Weed, Parsons & Co; 1853) pages 607 – 608.
- <sup>53</sup> *op.cit.* Salter and Beekman, Old Times in Old Monmouth, page 227.
- <sup>54</sup> *op.cit.* Virkus, 6:779.
- <sup>55</sup> *op.cit.* Salter and Beekman, Old Times in Old Monmouth, page 241.
- <sup>56</sup> Board of Proprietors of the Province of East Jersey, Deeds, Book 3, page 123; cited in NJA[1], 21, 39.
- <sup>57</sup> Board of Proprietors of the Province of East Jersey, Deeds, Book 3, page 139; cited in NJA[1], 21, 41.
- <sup>58</sup> *op.cit.* Salter and Beekman, Old Times in Old Monmouth, page 104.



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- <sup>59</sup> Thomas S Griffiths, A History of Baptists in New Jersey (Bar Press Publishing Company: Hightstown, NJ; 1904) page 17.
- <sup>60</sup> *op. cit.* Nelson, History of the New Jersey Coast, Volume II, page 190.
- <sup>61</sup> *op. cit.* Edwin Salter and George C. Beekman, Old Times in Old Monmouth, page 105.
- <sup>62</sup> *op. cit.* Edwin Salter and George C. Beekman, Old Times in Old Monmouth, pages 200-202, 204.
- <sup>63</sup> William Livingston, The Papers of William Livingston (Trenton: New Jersey Historical Commission, 1979) vol. 2, pp. 108, discusses The Grover-Taylor House
- <sup>64</sup> Marlpit Hall: a house full of history and intrigue, Monmouth County Historical Association, 2001; <https://archive.centraljersey.com/2001/07/17/marlpit-hall-a-house-full-of-history-and-intrigue/>
- <sup>65</sup> John E. Stillwell, Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume VI: Unrecorded Wills and Inventories Monmouth County New Jersey (reprint Shrewsbury Historical Society; 1975) pp.163-164, 169. Digital copy available through FamilySearch.com.
- <sup>66</sup> Board of Proprietors of the Province of East Jersey, Deeds, Book 1, page 68; cited by Roberts, 1955, 169; and NJA[1], 23, 197.
- <sup>67</sup> *op. cit.* Pomfret, The Province of East New Jersey: 1609 – 1702; page 230.
- <sup>68</sup> Phillips Family website on rootsweb.com
- <sup>69</sup> General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997: Liber I, Folio 169; Liber II, Part 2, Folios 39, 58. Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650--1856, L, Folio 169.
- <sup>70</sup> Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, A, Folio 362, recorded 22 July 1686.
- <sup>71</sup> Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, pages 57 and 59, recorded 26 August 1714.
- <sup>72</sup> Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, page 185, recorded 10 February 1715.
- <sup>73</sup> *op. cit.* Everett, Old Middletown Town Book, p. 35.
- <sup>74</sup> Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, I, Folio 351; and *op. cit.* Nelson, History of the New Jersey Coast, Volume II, pages 182, 268 and 402; and Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, page 186, recorded 10 February 1715.
- <sup>75</sup> Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, page 64, recorded 18 June 1714.
- <sup>76</sup> Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, G-2, Folio 540.
- <sup>77</sup> Monmouth County Deeds, Book I2, page 386.
- <sup>78</sup> General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997: Liber II, Part 2, Folio 238 and S1, Folio 33.
- <sup>79</sup> Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, p. 56, recorded 26 August 1714.
- <sup>80</sup> Major E.M. Woodward and John F. Hageman, History of Burlington and Mercer Counties, New Jersey. Volume 2 (Philadelphia: Everts & Peck; 1883) p.455.
- <sup>81</sup> John E. Stillwell, Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume VI: Unrecorded Wills and Inventories Monmouth County New Jersey (reprint Shrewsbury Historical Society; 1975) pp.62, 63, 78, 80-83, 170. Digital copy available through FamilySearch.com.
- <sup>82</sup> Monmouth County Deeds, Book G, p. 57, *entered* 22 February 1721, recorded 30 November 1721.
- <sup>83</sup> Monmouth County Deeds, Book G, page 44, *entered* 16 November 1721.
- <sup>84</sup> Monmouth County Wills, Liber B, page 460. See also. cited above, Stillwell, Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume VI, pp. 119, 155.
- <sup>85</sup> Prince William County, VA, Deed Book L, pp. 92-3